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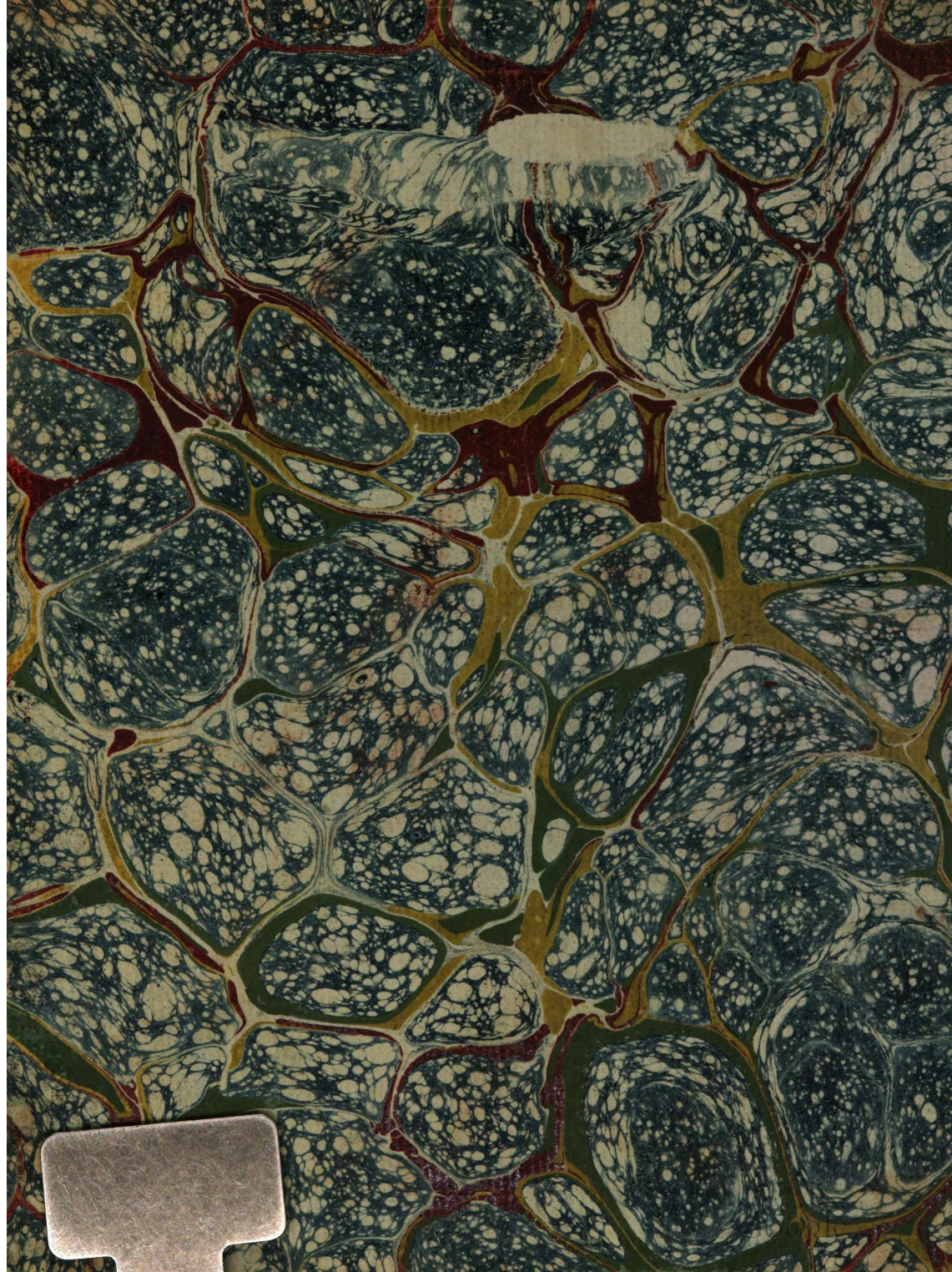
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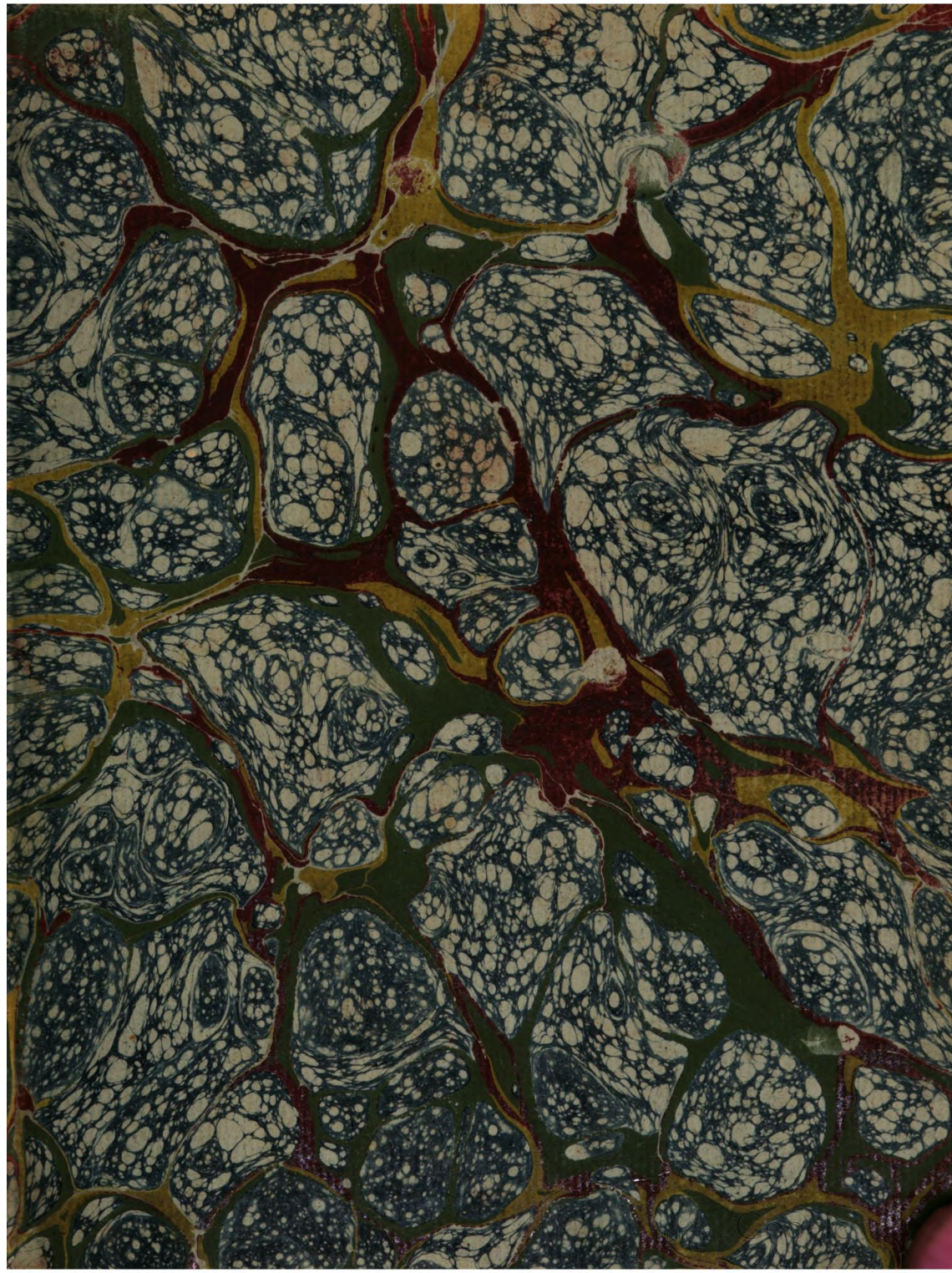
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A N
E S S A Y
OF THE
Ancient *and* Present State
OF
S T A M F O R D.

Its Situation, Erection, Dissolution, and Re-edification: Ancient and Present Sports, Endowments, Benefactions, Churches, Monuments, and other Curiosities; Monasteries, Colleges, Schools, and Hospitals: Some Account of a Monastick Life; when the Monks first appeared in the World; what Orders of them were settled here, and the Time of their coming into *England*.

The whole gathered from the best printed Accounts, as well as Original Manuscripts, particularly the Registers of *Durham*, and *Peterborough*; the Rolls in the *Tower*, and the *Cotton Library*; Old Writings, belonging to *Brown's Hospital*; the *Corporation Books*, *Mr. Foster's Papers*, *Stevens's Supplement to Dugdale's Monasticon*, and many other private Repositories.

By FRANCIS HOWGRAVE.

*I do love these Ancient Ruins. We never
Tread on them, but we set our Foot upon
Some Reverend History.*

Webster.

Quod mecum ignorat, solus vult scire videri;

Hor.

S T A M F O R D:
Printed for John Clarke at the Bible in Cornhill, London; and William
Thompson, Bookseller in Stamford, 1726.

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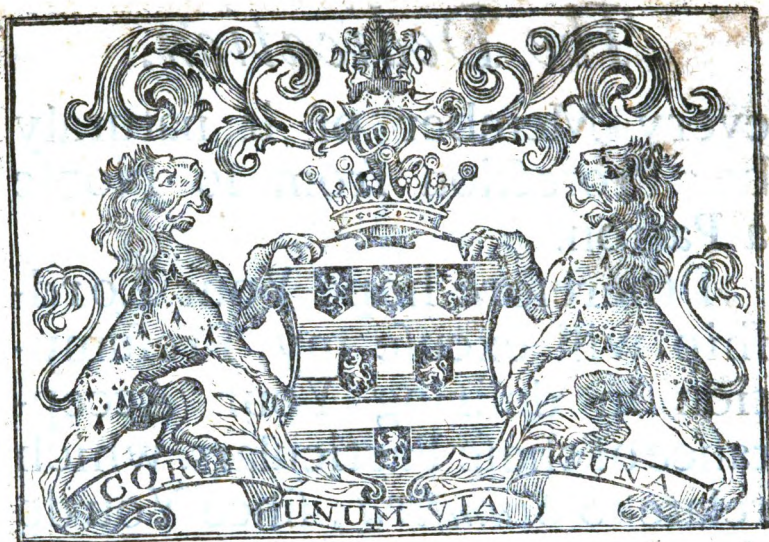
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To the Right Honourable
Brownlow Earl of Exeter.

My LORD,



THE Sense of those many Honours, and Obligations, this Corporation hath received from Your Lordship's Noble Ancestors, together with those, for which it is particularly indebted to Your Lordship, makes every

The Dedication.

every Member of it naturally beg Protection from so Noble a Patron.

I therefore hope Your Lordship will excuse my Presumption in desiring Your Acceptance of these Particulars, which relate to *Stamford*; since You do the Corporation the Honour to be its Recorder. It is an Honour we shall ever highly Value and Esteem, to have One so Nobly, so Anciently descended, preside over us in the Chair of Justice; where no Favour is shown to the Mighty, nor any Oppression of the Poor.

This Corporation was so sensible of Your promising Virtues, that as soon as ever the Law would give leave, their Eyes were ready fix'd on Your Lordship, to represent them in
Parliament.

The Dedication.

Parliament. And what may not the World expect from Your Lordship; when Honour so early shin'd in You, and that, at a Time, when You was surrounded with many Temptations to eclipse its Lustre. Large Possessions, and great Revenues, join'd to that Great Title, You was just arriv'd to, wou'd have been strong Inducements to most Minds, to have run so much into the Pleasures of the Age, that few Inclinations, and less Time wou'd have been found, for the doing of Justice. But Your Lordship would not suffer any thing to Bias Your Honour, therefore laid aside those unprofitable Satisfaction, that You might assure this Corporation, their Interest was Your peculiar Care, and the Noble and Honourable Qualities

of

The Dedication.

of Your Ancestors, descended
to You along with their Titles
and Estate.

Whilst therefore, there is any
thing of Gratitude left within
our Walls, it will always show
it self in Zeal for the *Cecils*;
which Noble Family we desire
may Encrease, and Flourish, in
accumulating Wealth and Ho-
nours, till there shall arise a
Greater *Elizabeth*, or a more
justly Renown'd *Lord-Treasurer*.

I am,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's

most Obliged,

most Devoted,

Humble Servant,

Francis Howgrave.

THE PREFACE.

IN the Year 1721. large Proposals, were offered to the World, by the Reverend Mr. *Francis Peck, A. B.* then Curate of *King's-Cliff*, in the County of Northampton, for the Printing by Subscription, the *History and Antiquities of the Town of Stamford*. The Assurance this Gentleman gave the World, that his Book was ready for the Press, prevailed with many to give him such Encouragement, as was suitable to his great Undertaking: His Subscribers at present seem very uneasy, at his Delaying his Performance, which he said five Years ago was ready for the Press. But however impatient they may seem to have the History of

*The dear lov'd Place of his Nativity,
Sighs on the Death of Q. Anne. P. 27.*

* They must permit him to alledge, that it can never appear too late if it be good; that it will infallibly be more correct; that Horace himself advises his Authors to keep their Copies, at least nine Years by them, that they may often revise and correct them; and lastly, that our own Country it self is not without a Person of some Figure now living, who kept a Performance of his (upon the Death of the late Queen Mary) very near twice nine Years by him, before he thought fit to send it Abroad.

* Preface to the Sighs.

A

†Hist. of Stamford Bull-Runnings. P. 16.

broad, These are powerful Reasons why his Subscribers should lay aside their Uneasiness; for if they regard Antiquity, this elaborate Work will be more valuable 40 Years hence: By which Time we may hope he will have pleased himself, and † think the World has Occasion for that curious Bundle of Manuscripts committed to his Custody by his Grandmother, which he may then add to his History, by Way of Appendix, to make it the more entertaining. Therefore that his Subscribers may not be too pressing for his Work, before it is duely corrected; I here offer this small Essay, to abate the Keenness of their Desires, till this great Antiquary can provide a more ample Volume for their Entertainment.

THIS is one Reason, why at this Time I have published this Essay; but there is another yet behind, which is, the Price of his common Paper, being no less than 30 s. few Persons will have Inclinations to buy, or Leisure to read it. I therefore hope, it may not be judged unnecessary, to bring this History into a smaller Compass, provided it can be done, without any great Prejudice to the same: How far I have now succeeded, must be submitted to the Judgment of the Reader. I can't but be of Opinion, with that great Historian Gilbert Burnet Bishop of Sarum, who in his Preface to his Abridgement of the History of the Reformation says, "Abridgements are generally hurtful; in them Men receive such a slight Tincture of Knowledge, as only feeds Vanity, and furnishes Discourse, but does not give so clear a View of Things; nor so solid an Instruction as may be had in more copious Writings." I have therefore made it my peculiar Care to insert at large, every Thing I thought material, and rather entirely omitted such Matters as I thought were mean and trifling. You have here no * Stories raised by Popish Parties, and

* Mr. Peck's Folio Propositions.

and the Preacher's Replies made : No Petitions of Nuns begging Pardon for asking Privileges at Rome, with the Absolution of those that stood excommunicated; or strange Stories about a Charnel-House; which can amount to no more, than, * I remember I heard my Grandfather say, that he heard his Father's Man say, that he heard his Master say, that he heard his Grandfather say, &c.

*Hist. of Stamford Bull-Runnings, P 4.

THESE Particulars are so little material, that they are below this History, and could I prevail with my self, to impose such Stuff upon the Reader, it would make my Designs too voluminous : But the curious will find all these Things, in a *Folio Edition* now printing on large Paper. Yet it is the Opinion, of the aforesaid Reverend Historian, " That it is a grievous " Imposition on that Time, which ought to be employed to better Uses, to draw out that, which " might be express'd in few Words, to such a Length, " that it frights some from the Study of Books which " might be of excellent Use, if they had not been " too voluminous; and oppresses the Patience of " those, who are resolved to acquire Knowledge in " the most laborious Methods.

I assure the Reader, I have used my utmost Endeavours, to get such Accounts, as I thought I could depend on; neither have I been sparing of my own Time, in taking Surveys, to make it the more useful and entertaining; and notwithstanding we are daily inform'd from the News-Papers, that the *Mountains are now in Labour to bring forth*; there are so many Records, both of the Town, Hospitals, and Monasteries destroyed, I fear the Production at last will be *ridiculus Mus*.

I hope the Reader will pardon my taking Notice (in this Place) of the Usage I have received from the Reverend Mr. Peck; since I have no other Opportunity

portunity of doing my self Justice. When this Work was near ready for the Press, I had the Favour of his Company; when he was so kind to advise me, not to meddle with his *Character*: I then gave him the greatest Assurance, I would never mention his Name, but with Respect, as one who I thought would deserve it, from the Trouble he had been at, in making Collections of the *Antiquities* of his *Native Place*. But a few Days after to my great Surprise, he sent me the following Letter.

“ Sir,

“ I am really concern'd there should be any Breach
 “ of Friendship betwixt us, but (since you are so re-
 “ solutely bent on that which you may depend upon
 “ will do you no Service) I beg Leave to remind
 “ you, that, as Reputation is a most valuable Flower,
 “ I will not suffer mine to be blasted by any Body,
 “ much less such a Child in Antiquities as you are.
 “ Therefore look well to your self ; I am yet only
 “ on the defensive: But if you begin the War, I
 “ thank God, I have both Money to sue, and a Pen
 “ to answer him who bespatters

Aug. 12. 1726.

Francis Peck.

It astonish'd me very much, to see this Letter sign'd by one I had so often oblig'd, (tho' I dare say, he is genteel enough to forget it) but still was determin'd with my self strictly to observe his Directions: As he said he was *only on the defensive*, I little expected to have seen in a publick News-Paper (and that in so short a Time as ten Days after) a long Advertisement, pompously setting forth, his own Work and Abilities; and informing the World, *That there was printing at Stamford, a sorry Piece of one Mr. Butcher's, which wretched Stuff was to be palu'd on the World, under the Name of Antiquities.* For him, (who

The Preface.

V

(who had never seen one Line of this Work) to assert I intend to *palm it on the World*, is I think no other than genteely calling me a Cheat ; and this is taking such a Liberty with my Character, as were he not a Clergy-Man, would require a different Answer than from my Pen : But as that * Gentleman who laid the first Foundation of Learning in him, and one of the greatest Criticks of the Age, have not escaped the Severities of his Pen, I have the less Reason to complain ; for when Gratitude can't be a Bar, nor Merit a Check to his ill Nature, there is Reason to fear a great Want of Christian Charity in him, which ought to be the peculiar Characteristick of every Gentleman in Holy Orders.

*Hist. of Stamford Bull-Runnings. P. 16. & 17.

As I was in perfect Friendship with this Gentleman, why should he think I could suffer my self to fall upon his Character ? or why should he be under so much Concern about the *Flower of his Reputation* ? unless it be already so much faded, it wont bear being breath'd upon. The gauled Horse indeed winces when he is touch'd ; but it is because the Part is not sound enough, to bear being stroaked by the gentlest Hand. But least this valuable *Flower*, should any way be faded by my handling of it, I will leave it as I found it, and for what I found it, he may thank himself.

If I am such a *Child in Antiquities*, as he would have the World believe I am, he discovers a *childish* Fear, to be so uneasy at my publishing a small *Essay* ; the Composition of a few Leisure Hours, and intended only as a Foible, to set off the Lustre of his much greater Volume. His putting of it to several Presses to hurry the Work out, least I suppose mine should get any Credit before his comes forth, would (were I disposed to be vain) induce me to believe, I was able as he told me, to *blow him up like*

a

a Rat out of a Lampblack Barrel, the *Antiquity* of which Entertainment, I hope, he will oblige us withal in his History, since it was a Favourite Diversion with him in his Youth.

I freely own my self a *Child in Antiquities*, and desire to appear here no otherwise, than one, who wishes to see the *History of Stamford* brought to some Degree of Perfection, rather than think my self-capable of doing it. This has not been the *Labour of ten Years*, neither have I employed all the Time I could spare from the Obligations of my Function, in Searching for Records: I made it indeed my Entertainment, and entered into this Study, only to relieve my Thoughts, when wearied with Application to those, which were peculiar to my Calling: Therefore what ever Errors may appear in this *Essay*, I don't doubt but the Men of *Learning, Modesty, and good Nature*, will candidly pass them by. And if Mr. Peck had any Regard to his Character, as an *Antiquary*, it would have induced him, to have assisted my Youth, rather than attempt to expose my Desires to please.

It is indeed my Misfortune, not to be honoured with the Acquaintance of those Gentlemen, who bear so great a Character in *Antiquity*, as the prefixing their Names will make any Work valuable: They are particularly esteem'd, for their Readiness to assist any Work, they think may be serviceable to the World, and value not any Cost of Time, or Money, so they can oblige those, that are making Collections: (These are Civilities, I dare say Mr. Peck will never be guilty of) And indeed this cannot be verify'd in any Thing more, than so many great Persons (Mr. Peck says) have assisted his Work, after he had given them a Specimen of his Abilities, by Publishing the *History of the Stamford Bull-Runnings*; a sorry Piece composed of such wretched Stuff, that one would think the Author,

The Preface. vii

thor, had never convers'd with any one above a Barber or a Fidler.

*Where by himself, his Character is shown,
And he sufficiently his own Lampoon.*

AND yet the World received that candidly from his Hands, because they knew he was then *a Child in Antiquities*.

BUT he has lately given us such great Encomiums both of himself, and his History, that I don't doubt, but he has now accomplished that difficult Part, *the pleasing himself*; since he long since declared, *he thought he could easily please the World*.

As I have received the Favour of his Advice; that I may not be wanting in any Civility to him, I will now return the Compliment; which I hope will convince him, I am not on any Account desirous to make a *Breach of Friendship* betwixt us: And therefore, shall advise him, when he thinks the *World may have Occasion for his History*, he will publish it without being guilty of *Pedantry*: That is he won't make Use of low and mean Ways of Speech, **as damnably afraid, list'ning like a Sow in the Pease, Hob-Nalish, Bell, Bellows, and Tipstaff*: That he won't too much contradict *Great Men*, upon *slight Grounds*; or be too *assuming*, and *positive*, in what is not capable of being perfectly cleared; that he will suffer other Persons to have *Merit* as well as himself; that he won't heap together *Matter in Abundance*, without *Choice and Distinction*, and care not how *worthless* it is, so there be but *enough* of it; that now his *Reputation* is growing *bulky*, by the Assistance of some great Friends, he will neither *begin it with a Jest*, nor *end it with a Fable*; that he will, if possible, observe the *Rules of Civility*, and common *Decency*: For *Pedantry* in the Pen, is what *Clownishness* is in *Conversation*, it is written *Ill-Breeding*.

*Hist. of Stamford Bull-Runnings, P. 4, 8,

27.

And

*And none were e'er with Admiration read,
But who beside their Learning were well bred:*

Rosc. Ess. on Transl. Verse.

THIS is one Part of the Character of a Pedant, but as I have chiefly borrowed it, from the Honourable Mr. Boyle's Works, who when he wrote this was a young Man, I fear my Advice will be lost upon him; since Mr. Peck's good Nature, will most certainly call him, as much a Child in Learning, as I am in Antiquity.

I have been under a Necessity of trespassing upon my Reader's Patience thus much, since Mr. Peck has so severely threatned me both with his *Purse*, and his *Pen*: My Friends, I know will be under some Concern for me, till I convince them, that the Gentleman had only wrapt himself in a *Lyon's Skin*, and in Reality was not that terrible Creature he at first appeared to be: I find him so weak and unfair an Adversary, that as great a Child as I am, I shou'd be ashamed to continue our Dispute with so much Advantage; neither can I answer it to my self, to take up so much of his Time, which may more properly be employ'd in his Obligations of his Function. This Preface, I think, will be a sufficient Reply to every Thing he can offer, in his Behalf, especially since I have † brought it to as much Perfection as I have been able, after many Reviews, great Labour, and the utmost Application to give it.

I take this Opportunity of returning my Thanks to all those Gentlemen, who have assisted this Work by their curious Informations, as well as those, who obliged me with their Subscriptions, for the Publishing of this Essay; and for the Opinion they had of my Honesty, in delivering Matters of Fact as they came to my Hand.

THE

† Vid. Advertisement in Northampton Mercury Aug. 22. 1726.



THE
 ANTIQUITIES
 AND
 PRESENT STATE
 OF
 STAMFORD.

CHAP. I.

The several Appellations, Foundation, Situation, and Form of STAMFORD; with the Erection and Dissolution of the Universities there. Together with an Account of the New River, by whom made, and the Advantages arising from it.



NICHOLAS Machiavel in his History of Florence, lib. 5, tells us, all Kingdoms, Countries, Civil Societies, and Common-wealths, were at first founded by War, and the Sword of the Soldier: It hath therefore (saith he) been observed by Wise
 B Men,

Men, that Learning follows Arms, and in all Places Captains were before Philosophers.

For well governed Armies being tired with Victory, they will in Policy settle the Study of good Laws and Religion, for the more firm Establishment of what they have obtain'd by the Sword.

ÆNEAS the Trojan after Troy was taken, and ruin'd by the Greeks, by his Sword gained the Government of Italy, and there settled his Trojan Penates according to that Religion he brought from Troy. *Brutus*, the Grandchild of *Æneas*, having accidentally slain his Father *Posthumius-Silvius*, fled from Italy, and arriving here in this our Island of Great-Britain, subdued those Giant-like People, which here then inhabited; from whom, after many Kings of Trojan Stock in a right Line descended *Bladud*, who built *Stamford*, of which I am now going to give a particular Account. In Ancient Records it is styled with several Appellations, as *Stamford*, *Stanford*, and *Stampford*. At that time *England* was not divided into Shires or Counties, and so continued till the Saxon Government, whose King *Alfred* above 800 Years ago for the better Administration of Justice, divided the same into Counties, as it is at this Day.

* *Stamford*.

THE TOWN of **Stamford* is situated upon the furthest Point West in the County of *Lincoln*, on the Confines of the Counties of *Rutland* and *Northampton*: And *Stamford-Baron* adjoyning to it, is placed in a very healthful, pleasant, and temperate Air, which in the Form thereof doth represent the Figure of a Roman T. It is watered on the South Parts with the River *Weland*, which hath its Original Spring in the County of *Leicester*, towards the West, not far from the Town of *Harborough*. From whence extending her Stream, she divideth by her Channel

in

in the beginning of her Course, the Counties of *Lincoln* and *Northampton*, and before she comes at *Stamford*, she likewise divides the Counties of *Rutland* and *Northampton*, and then arriving there, she divideth the Town from *Stamford-Baron* in the County of *Northampton*: A Place though not subject to the Government of *Stamford*, yet joyned to the same in all Taxes, Subsidies, Fifteens, and other Payments to the State amounting to the fifth Part of a full Mulct; here she passing under a Bridge of five Arches, holds on her Travel towards the East, and makes a Separation betwixt the Counties of *Lincoln* and *Northampton*, till she comes to the Town of *Grobyland*; where she discharges herself into the Fens of *Holland*, thence into the *German Ocean*.

ON the 17th of June in the 20th Year of the *New River*.
Reign of King *James* the 1st over *England*, and the 5th over *Scotland*: Letters Patents were granted to the *Aldermen*, and *Burgesses* of *Stamford*, upon an Act of Parliament made the 2^d of April in the 13th Year of the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, for making the River *Weland* Navigable, from *Stamford Bridge* to the Sea. A Commission under the Great-Seal was likewise granted to divers Persons of Quality, authorized by the said Commission, and by Virtue of the said Act, to survey the said River: Upon which Survey, they gave Orders where the New Cut should begin, and all Places where it should be Cut, between *Stamford Bridge* and *Market-Deeping*, and so forwards to *Spalding*; and likewise to make such Locks and Sluces as should be judged convenient, and to take a Toll of 3d. at every such Lock or Sluce, for every Ton of Goods, which shall pass either by Boat or Lighter: The same Grant gave them a Privilege of Fishing, in and upon the said *New River*; and

this Grant, to be to the *Aldermen* and *Burgesſes* of *Stamford* for ever.

ON the 28th of April 1664. Articles of Agreement were made, between the *Aldermen* and *Burgesſes* of *Stamford*, and *Daniel Wigmore*, Gentleman, concerning the making the aforeſaid River Navigable.

AND on the 20th of September following, a Leaſe was granted by the Town to Mr. *Wigmore*, of the ſaid River for fourſcore Years, at the Rent of 12d a Year, giving thereby the ſame Privileges, and Liberties to Him for that Term of Years, as was before granted to Them, by the aforeſaid Act of Parliament, and Letters Patents.

THIS *New River* was completed by Mr. *Wigmore*, and the Leaſe came afterwards into the Hands of *Charles Halford*, Eſq; through his Marriage with Mr. *Wigmore's* Daughter. This Gentleman deſired to ſurrender the Leaſe, and petitioned the Corporation, that in Conſideration of the great Expence Mr. *Wigmore* had been at, to finiſh this great Undertaking, they would grant him a new Leaſe, with Power of renewing the ſame every fourſcore Years, paying them for every ſuch Leaſe 100 Pounds; which was granted. The Property of this River is now in the Hands of Mr. *Feaſt*, and ſo much is the Navigation improved, by the great Increase of Trade in the Town, that it brings in between 2 and 300 Pounds yearly, excluſive of all Expences.

THIS Town of *Stamford* is of great Antiquity, and was built by *Bladud*, a King of the *Britains*, who reigned in *England* in the Year of the World's Creation 3066, and came from *Athens* before the Birth of Chriſt 863 Years. This King was a great Philoſopher,

Philosopher, and brought from Athens with him four Philosophers, and placed them at *Stamford*, and made Schools, that they might teach the Seven Liberal Sciences, in Imitation of the ancient *Athenian* Schools; so that it flourished in all manner of Heathenish Learning, till the Time of King *Lucius*, who was the first that embraced the Christian Faith, by the Preaching of *Fugatius* and *Damianus*, sent hither into *Britain* by *Eleutherius*, then Bishop of *Rome*. And as before it was very famous throughout the World, for the great Proficiency of Ethnick Learning, so in that blessed Time, when *England* was first enlightned with the glorious Beams of the Gospel, it much more flourished with Learned, Holy, and Religious Men, who very devoutly taught the Knowledge of the Christian Religion; in-somuch, that in succeeding Times (according to the Devotion of those Times) in and about *Stamford*, Eight Houses of Religion, Thirteen Parish Churches, and Three Chapels, all of them in or near the same Town were erected, (as shall hereafter in the proper Place be more particularly named) the same being furnished, with the learnedest and gravest Men of that Age: The Fame of whose Piety and Learning, caused many of the Christian Princes and other Great Men, neighbouring upon the Isles of *Britain*, to send their Sons and Friends hither, to be taught and educated by those pious Masters: Being thus encouraged by Persons of the greatest Quality, and Fashion, it soon raised the Name of those Schools to the Honour of an University. But as no Glory is permanent in this transitory Life, so in Time the Lustre of this bright shining Taper of Fame began to wax dim, and to decline by the foggy, and pestiferous Mists, of Heresy and Errors; which caused the *Stamfordian* University to be dissolved, by the Decree

Decree and Power of Gregory, then Bishop of Rome, for the Heresy of *Arise*. In this Place, it may not be improper to give likewise an Account of its becoming an University a second Time. * In Edward the Third's Reign 1334. An University for Liberal Arts and Sciences was begun here, which the Inhabitants look upon as their greatest Glory: For when the hot Contests at Oxford broke out between the Students of the North and South, a great Number of them withdrew and settled here. However, a little after they return'd to Oxford, and thus soon put an End to this New University they had so lately begun; yet, this was sufficient to fulfil a former ancient Prophecy, which followeth in these Words.

* Camden,
Brit. p. 463.

*Hoc magnum studium qui nunc est ad vada boum,
Tempore futuro celebrabitur ad vada saxi.*

* P. 475.

BUT what ever Deference we pay to Mr. Neal's Manuscript, which Camden mentions; * from the Circumstances it seems pretty plain that it must be of longer Date than Edward the 3d. For upon that Quarrel mention'd by Mr. Camden, which happen'd between the Southern and Northern Scholars, the latter came hither in November 1333, and return'd to Oxford before 1334. So that their short Stay could not allow them any great Opportunities for Building. Upon this Separation they petitioned the King to put down this Academie (as Wood expresseth it, p. 166.) *ne vetus eruditionis fuentum exaresceret, lest the ancient Fountain of Learning should be dried up*: In pursuance of which Request, the King order'd a Proclamation to be publish'd, requiring all Masters and Scholars studying at Stamford, to return to Oxford, under pain of Confiscation of Goods; *nam no-*
lunus

lumnus (inquit rex) scholas seu studia alibi infra regnum nostrum, quam in locis ubi universitates nunc sunt, aequaliter teneri; and farther, to extirpate this Academie, Oxford obliges every Candidate for a Degree to swear, Item, in jurabis quod non leges nec audies Stamfordiam tanquam in universitate studio aut collegio generali. But as there are here still the Remains of two Colleges, one call'd *Black-Hall*, and the other *Brazen-Nose*, in the Gate whereof is a great *Brazen-Nose*, and a Ring through it, like that at *Oxford*; 'tis evident, that this did not take its Pattern from *Oxford*, but probably *Oxford* from it, because *Brazen-Nose* College in *Oxford*, was not built before the Reign of *Henry* the 7th, and this is at least as old as *Edward* the 3d, or probably older.

As those Students were recalled by the King's Proclamation, it appears plain, that *Stamford* could not be an University without the King's Leave; which is a full Proof, that it was Incorporated before that Time, as both *Stow* and *Grafton* concur. The very flying of the Students in *Edward* the 3d's Time makes this evident: For were there not Colleges in some measure ready to receive them, any other Place might have been as convenient.

NOTWITHSTANDING this Contest, *Stamford* flourished for some Time afterwards in Trade and Merchandize, untill the unhappy War broke out, betwixt the two Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*. It was then taken by the Northern Soldiers, who burnt all the Houses, and so destroyed all Things, that it could never since recover, and come up to its former Glory; tho' it is of late Years greatly improv'd, and made the best Town in the County.

C H A P. II.

Stamford ruined by the Danes, re-built, and the Bridge over Weland built by Harold the second Son of King Canute ; the Castle and Walls, built by Edmund Ironside, a Saxon King ; with the Names of the Gates, the Names and Uses of the Watch-Towers, the Situation of the Castle, the Number of Streets, and Lanes, with the Conduits and Wells which Water the Town ; also an Account of the present Water-Works. Together with the Churches in and about the same.

ABOUT the Year of CHRIST 1016, Canute King of Denmark invaded England with a potent Army, and amongst other of his Spoils and Rapines laid waste the Town of *Stamford* ; which not long after, was by *Harold* his Son and Successor re-built ; and a Bridge of Stone built over the River *Weland*, leading into *Stamford-Baron*. It had neither Castle nor Walls, till the time of *Edmund Ironside*, a Saxon King, about 60 Years before the Norman Conquest ; who built the Castle, and compassed the Town with a Wall of Stone of a considerable height, for the better Defence against the Danes Invasion. This Wall had upon it, five strong and stately Watch-Towers : Two toward the Water-side, for a Defence against the Enemy towards the South ; the one is call'd *Beesfort*, the other *Holm-Tower* : The other three are towards the East, North, and West ; call'd *Carpe-Tower*, *White-Tower*, and *North Bulwork*.

THE

THE Walls have in them five principal Gates; *Peter-Gate* on the West, *St. Clement's-Gate* on the North; *Paul-Gate*, and *St. George's-Gate* toward the East, and the *Bridge-Gate* toward the South. To these may be added a sixth standing North-East, called the *New-Gate*: But made long since the ancient Gates were erected. All the rest appearing to have Slips or strong Port-Cullisses; which the *New-Gate* wanteth. Besides, there is toward the South, two antient Postern-Gates, which seem as antient as the Walls themselves: The one joyning to the *Bridge-Gate*; the other not far from *St. George's-Gate*, leading into the *Tenter Meadows*.

THE Castle was situated upon the Side of an Hill, which appears somewhat Artificial; being cast up round, and higher than the ordinary Degree; standing South-West, toward the Middle of the Town, and faces the River with a pleasant Prospect.

MR. *Cambden* makes mention of another Castle, some time standing in *Stanford-Baron*, for, says he, p. 463. When King *Edward* the Elder fortified the Southern-Banks of the River, to hinder the *Danish* Inroads from the North; he built also on the South-Bank over-against it a very strong Castle, call'd now *Stanford-Baron*, as *Marianus* has it. This was destroyed in the Wars betwixt King *Stephen* and *Henry* the second: And indeed the very Ruins of it are no where to be met with; or give us the least Evidence where it stood. Tho' the Book of *Peterborough* relates, that *Eleanor*, the Wife of *Edward* the First, after the Conquest (in the Place where the said Castle stood) erected a House of *Nuns*, and endowed the same with fair Possessions, which being dissolved among many others, in the time of King *Henry* the Eighth; the same came in the Days of Queen *Elizabeth* into the Possession of

C

William

William Cecil, Lord Baron of Burghley: And at this Day is part of the Inheritance of his Posterity in the noble House of *Exeter*.

HERE have been thirteen Churches, viz. *St. Mary's, St. John's, Clement's, All-Saints, Peter's, Mary Byn-week*, just within *Peter-Gate*: The Place where it stood is now call'd the *Chapel-Close*; Chapel of *Breadcraft*, without the West End of the Town, in the Parish of *St. Peter*. *St. Michael's, Paul's, St. Andrew's, Holy Trinity, St. George's, and St. Stephen's*, just out of *St. Paul's-Gate*: And on the other side of the Water, *St. Martin's, All-Saints*, and the Chappel of *Burghley*, in the Parish of *St. Martin*: Where the Priorefs of *St. Michael* was oblig'd to find a Minister. By an Act of Parliament, I. of *Edward VI.* the *Ordinary*, and *Aldermen*, and two more Justices of the Peace, were impower'd to lessen the Number of the said Churches, and Chapels: Which they did, and reduced them to five in *Stamford*, and one in *Stamford-Baron*, according to that old Division of the Town into Wards, allowing a Church to each Ward. And so left standing, *St. Mary's, St. John's, All-Saints, St. Michael's, St. George's and St. Martin's* in *Stamford-Baron*: To which Vicarage, Lord Treasurer *Burghley*, gave the Great Tythes. *St. Paul's* was reserved for a School-House. Few of these have an Income competent to maintain their Minister. A thing which may seem very strange, when sixteen Benefices are reduced to five or six. And the Reason may be the same which is given, for the Universities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, which have several Parish Churches, and yet not any one of any competent Maintenance: Because the Fellows of the several Colleges, do officiate in those several Cures, for the better Exercise, and Practice of their Ministry; as having their
chiefest

chiefest Maintenance from the Collegēs: So the Monks, in this Place did officiate, in the severall Parishes, having their principal Maintenance from the Monasterys; which being dissolved, most of those Parishes became united, (Especially those that had any competent Maintenance to them) for the Support of the future Ministry, and those that had merely nothing were totally ruined.

THE Town hath in it to the Number of eleven fair Streets; and ten small Streets or Lanes; well replenished with Houses. But in former Times (as appears by the Ruins of many antient Buildings) it was much more Populous, tho' it is now very fully inhabited.

THE Names of the Streets and Lanes are as follow, *Peter-Hill*, *St. Mary's*, *Paul's*, *St. Michael's*, *St. George's*, *Clement-Hill*, (where the Friday Market-Cross stands) *Clips-Hill*, *St. Mary's Market-Street*, *All-Hallows Gate*; the *Bridge-Street*, *Clement-Lane*, *Star-Lane*, *Goldsmith's-Lane*, *Mannerly-Lane*, *Chaine-Lane*, *St. Thomas's-Lane*, *St. John's-Lane*, *St. Mary's-Lane*, *Castle-Dike*, and *Pillory-Nook*, where the White-Meat Market is kept.

THE Town is watered by two common Conduits, viz. *St. Michael's*, and *Paul's Conduit*: It hath four common Wells, *All-Hallows*, *St. George's*, *Poole-Well*, and *Clement-Well*: These Conduits are supply'd by Leaden-Pipes which lie from a *Conduit-head*, being about twelvescore Yards without the Walls, upon the North-East of the Town in the Common-Field; and hath the Land next adjoyning to it for the Repairs both of the Spring and Conduit. To these we may add some common Pumps that were made for the more Convenience of Water; but these were destroyed when

the Water-Works were finished: Tho' it is pity they were not continued, seeing they might have been of singular Service, when ever any accident by Fire should happen; of which we have had a dreadful Instance this Year, 1726, in *Scotsgate*, when in the space of two Hours a Fire consumed, in *Corn, Hay, Implants in Husbandry and Buildings* to the Value of 1000 l. And had not the Wind stood so favourably, as to blow the Flames into the open Fields, the Town must have been in the greatest Danger.

It the Year 1697. Mr. *William Yarnold* of *St. Albans*, in the County of *Hertford*, made Application to the Corporation, to have leave to convey Water, by Engines, and other Instruments, from the River to a Cestern; which was to be erected at the Market-Cross. This was to be so large as to furnish the Town continually with Water. He readily obtain'd this Grant; as one also from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Stamford*, Lord of the Manour, giving him the Use of the River, and leave to break up the Streets to lay down Pipes, for the Conveyance of the same Water. The Executors of the said Mr. *Yarnold*, sold the Reversion to Mr. *William Feast*: But he being dead, they are now in the Hands of his Brother's Widow, Lady *Feast*. The aforesaid *William Feast* finding these Engines, by which the Water was raised, very expensive; he proposed to convey it from a Spring at *Wothorpe*, which is about a Mile from *Stamford*. This Spring lies so high, that from a Natural Fall it is able to supply plentifully any Part of the Town. And upon his petitioning, the Right Honourable *John* Earl of *Exeter*, Father of this present Noble Earl; he had leave given him; which will ever be esteem'd one of the many Favours, that Honourable Family has bestowed upon this

this Town. The Town is therefore, now very well supply'd with Water: And at proper Places there are Fire-Cocks fix'd, that are capable of supplying a large Store of Water, when ever any Fire shall happen, so that there will now be no necessity of breaking the Ground to cut the main Pipes.



C H A P. III.

*The antient Privileges, and Owners. of the
Town of STAMFORD.*

HENRY of Huntingdon * reckons this Town amongst the antient Cities of England: For he writing of Wars, that were between Edmund Ironside, a Saxon King, and the Danes here in England, sets forth the same in these Words: *Edmundus Rex ducens exercitum in illam partem Mercie quæ Paganis diu subdita fuerat, usque ad latissimum flumen Humberia bello fortes Dacos vicit; et quinque Urbes victoriosus cepit; Lincolniam, Licesstriam, Stamfordiam, Nottingham, et Derby.* After this Ingulphus reports, * *In tempore Gulielmi primi*; that at Stamford there were Terms held, as there are now at Westminster. For he writing concerning a Suit there was between him, as Abbot of Croyland, and one Alfordus, who had formerly been a Bailiff, belonging to that Abby; and had cheated the same of a great Estate, in Lands and Tenements, and claim'd them as his own; Ingulphus hath these Words: *Sed Censoribus nostris, semper contra dicentibus, ille jura nostra sufflavit, et coram Regiis Justitiariis se palam verificaturum ipsa tenementa sua esse patrimonia cum multa contentione promisit: Et sic de Canobio nostro processit: Nobis etiam in dictis tenementis coram Regiis ministris calumniam ponentibus, dies Juridicus apud Stamford datus est.*

MR. Cambden observes * that this Town is built of rough Stone, from which it has its Name: That it is a Town of good Resort, and endowed with divers Privileges, and wall'd about: Paying Geld (as Domesday-Book has it) for twelve Hundred and a half

half to the Army, and towards the Navy, and Danegeld; and had in it six Wards. *Hovenden Annal*, p. 249. makes mention of *Stamford* and *Stamfordshire*, being a County Town, before the Conquest. *Stow* p. 131. says there was a Mint for coining Money in *Stamford-Baron*, in the Time of King *Atbelstan*; but this probably was some Privilege granted to the Abbots of *Peterborough*; for this is that Parish that's within *Northamptonshire*, and is within a distinct Liberty granted to the Abbots of *Peterborough*.

THE Rev. Mr. *William Foster* observes, that the Roman Way, that goes from *Caster*, near *Peterborough*, to *Lincoln*, crosses the River *Weland*, at the South West Corner of this Town, where there is a Stony Ford, at the Bottom of a Place which they call the *Nuns-Lane*, from whence he makes no doubt it took its first and only Name, in the Saxon Language, *Steanford*.

THE ancient Owners of this Town have been many, as I find by an Inquisition taken from the Wapentake of *Nesse*, in the County of *Lincoln*: But this is without Date. By the Oath of *Ralph de Wafrey*, *Ralph at Head*, and others, who all say upon their Oaths, that the Town of *Stamford* is out of the Barons or Knights Fees, and held in Capite of the King. It was in the Demesne of King *Henry* the 1st. What ever belong'd to King *John* in *Stamford*, he gave to *Richard de Humetz* to hold the same by Homage. But the Inquisition upon this Record saith, that they know not, that the said *Richard* did any Service to the King; unless he was Constable to the King. After the Death of *Richard de Humetz*, *William* his Son and Heir held the same; but at the taking the Inquisition, *William Earl Warren* held the same at the Will of King *John*.

THE

* Lands given
away in Stam-
ford.

* THE aforefaid *William de Humetz* gave out of his Lordship to *Henry de Grey* in Service, one Messuage in *Stamford* at 2d. Rent, which was surrendered to him by *Stephen Basset*; and this is alienated, says the Record.

RICHARD de Humetz, gave to *David* the Son of *Suren*, seven Acres of Land; which *Alexander* his Son held by Service, which is alienated from the Demeſne. But *Inquisition* knows not by what Service, the King alienated from *Stamford* ten Carucates, and half, to the Hoſpital of *St. Leper*, and two Acres to the Monks of *St. Leonard* in pure Almes.

In the Town of *Stamford*, beyond the Bridge (ſaith the Record in the County of *Northampton*) the *Abbot* of *Peterborough*, holds ten Yards Land and a half of the King; with the Part of the Town of *Stamford*. But *Inquisition* cannot find by what Service the ſaid *Abbot* held the ſaid Lands: And they ſay, that the ſaid *Abbot*, had not given; or alienated the ſame, or any Part thereof.

FURTHER the ſaid *Inquisition* ſays, that beyond the Bridge is a certain Tenement, which at the time of the taking the ſaid *Inquisition*, was held of the King by *Roger de Somery*; which Tenement *Gervace* of *Barnack* held of him, and the ſaid *Gervace* receiv'd yearly from the Tenants, of the ſaid *Roger* 5 s. But they ſay they are ignorant, what Service the ſaid *Roger* did to the King, for that Fee; and ſay that nothing of of it is alienated.

* *Stamford*,
Land held in
Capite.

* In the Town of *Stamford*, *Nigrel de Lovetot* held in Capite of the King one Mill, with a Meſſuage; and the Monks of *Groxton* held the ſame of him for 20 s. a Year: And they ſay they know nothing by what Service the ſaid *Nigrel* held the ſame.

BERTRAM

BERTRAM *de Verdun* held one Messuage (with the Appurtenances) of the King in *Stamford*, which *William* the Son of *William* held of him: And the same *William* receiv'd yearly 1 s. 9 d. but they say, they know not by what Service the said *Bertram* held the same.

IN the Town of *Stamford*, *Thomas* the Son of *Esface* held of the King, Eight Messuages with the Appurtenances, which yield to him, ----- but they know not by what Service they were held.

DAVID Earl of *Huntingdon*, held of the King in *Stamford*, one Messuage, with the Appurtenances, which *Achard de Sproxton* held of the Earl.

THE said Earl *David* held in *Stamford*, a Tenement of the *Burgesses* of *Stamford*, which *Sampson Achard de Sproxton* held in Free-Burgage, for one Penny Rent yearly 5 l. 1 s.

WILLIAM *de Lannat* held in chief of the King fourteen Messuages in Free-Burgage, which yielded unto him yearly 9 s. 1 d. but they know not what Service the said *William* doth for the same, neither hath he given, or alienated the same, or any Part thereof.

THE *Abbot* of *Thorney* held of the King in chief in *Stamford* ten Messuages, which yielded unto him yearly 6 s. 8 d. and the Jury are ignorant, by what Service he held the same, and say that he hath not alienated the same.

THE *Frior* and *Monk* of *Durham* held certain Tenements in *Stamford*, which yielded to them yearly 14 s. 1 d. and they say they were held in *Free-Alms* of the King by Charter, which they have.

THE Bretheren of the Hospital of *St. John's* of *Jerusalem* held in *Stamford*, a certain Messuage, with
D the

the Appurtenances, for which they receiv'd yearly 12 s. which they held from Time to Time of King Henry the Elder; by the Gift of that *Burrough*, which they call *Biggot's Lumbard*, and they held the same from King to King, by the Charter which they have.

WILLIAM Earl *Warren*, gave and granted, in the Lordship of *Stamford* to *Tipler*, one Messuage, with the Appurtenance in the Possession of *Hugh at Water*, which yearly yeilded 2d. Half-penny.

THE Pope having cursed King *John*, and interdicted all *England*, he gave the same to *Lewis*, the Dauphine, Son to *Philip* King of *France*; which *Lewis* made War with King *John*, and had nigh beat him out of *England*. In which War the afore-said *Humetz*, Owner of this Town, sided with the *French* against his Sovereign. But Victory at last favouring the *English*, King *John* confiscated all his Subjects Lands, that had sided with the Enemies. Among which he seized the Lands of *Humetz*, and gave them to *William* Earl *Warren*, along with the Castle and Town of *Stamford*, for the Loss, which he had sustain'd, in the said Wars, by siding with the King.

After the Death of *William* Earl *Warren*, *Henry* the Third seized the Castle and Town, and gave the same to Prince *Edward*, the eldest Son of the said King, who possess'd it: But when he came to be King, he gave it again to *John* Earl *Warren*; and *John* Earl *Warren*, among other Things, gave the Castle and Town to the King back again after his Decease.

This Earl *John* died in the 21st of *Edward* III: who was possessed of the said Castle and Town for Life, the Remainder to the King, as appears by the Inquisition upon the Tower Roll, taken after the Death of the said *John* Earl *Warren*: After his Decease,

Decease, *Edward III.* gave the said Castle and Town to *William de Bobun*, Earl of *Northampton*, and to his Heirs-Male, and in default of such Issue, the Remainder to the King.

The said *William* Earl of *Northampton* died without Heirs-Male ; whereupon the Reversion of the said Castle and Town did again return to the Crown, and so continued to the First of *Edward* the Fourth. This King by Letters Patents, bearing Date the first of *June*, granted the same Town and Castle to his Mother *Cicely*, Duchess of *York*, for the Term of her Life, the Remainder to the King and his Heirs, after her Decease. This continued in the Crown till the Time of Queen *Elizabeth* ; she granted them to *William Cecil*, the first Lord *Burghley*, who was great in the Favour of this Queen, and an Honour to his Country ; from him they descended to *Anne*, Daughter and Coheir of *William* Earl of *Exeter*, who was married to *Henry Grey*, first Earl of *Stamford*, advanced to that Dignity by King *Charles* the First, in the third Year of his Reign. He was Father of *Thomas* Lord *Grey* of *Greoby*, who died in his Father's Life time, having married *Dorothy*, Daughter and Coheir of *Edward Bouchier*, Earl of *Bath* ; by which Match *Thomas* was descended from *Thomas* of *Woodstock*, Duke of *Gloucester*, the *Bobuns* Earls of *Essex*, *Hereford*, and *Northampton*, and several other Noble Families ; but he dying without Issue, his Titles, and Part of his Estate, descended to *Harry Grey*, Esq; Grandson of *John Grey*, 3d. Son of *Henry*, the first Earl of *Stamford*.

CHAP. IV.

The ancient Government of STAMFORD, the first Incorporating thereof by Letters Patents: The Reason why Kings of this Land have from Time to Time nourished Corporations: The Privileges and Immunities of STAMFORD, by the Grants and late Charters: The Power given them to make Laws, and the Laws first made particularly specified.

THE Government of *Stamford* was long before their written Charter, held and used amongst themselves by an ancient Prescription, which was call'd, *The Aldermanry of the Guild*: As strong and as large, as that which was settl'd by the Charters of the 1st and 5th of *Edward IV.* who was the first that did Incorporate the Town, by Letters Patents: For it appeareth upon the Tower-Roll in the third Year of King *Edward* the First, *Per veredictum duodecem minorum Ville de Stamford Rotul. Hundred. Lincoln. ibi fuerunt duodecem qui vocantur Legemani qui sic vocabantur quia ab antiquo fuerunt Judices legum in eadem Villa.* Whereby it is manifest, that in those Days, there were twelve Men in *Stamford*, which were call'd *Leigemen*, because they were Judges of the Law, and were intrusted with the same, for the Government of the Town.

EDWARD IV. in the first Year of his Reign, 1461, (by his Charter directed to *George Chapman*, the first incorporate *Alderman*, and others, both of the upper and lower Bench, then call'd the *Com-Burgesse* and

and *Capital-Burgesses*, being then the first and second Twelve, as they are more particularly named in the said Charter, but since enlarged by a later Charter, to the *Aldermen* and Twelve *Com-Burgesses*, and Twenty Four *Capital-Burgesses*) did incorporate the said Town both in Name and Deed, by the Name of the *Alderman* and *Burgesses* of *Stamford*. And thereby gave, or rather confirm'd unto the same, many great, and profitable Privileges: As to be free from the Sheriff's Jurisdiction; and from being put on Inquests out of the Town; to have the Return of all Writs; to be free from all Lords-Lieutenants, or their Deputies, in respect of taking of Musters, as touching the Militia of the said Town; making the *Alderman* for the Time being, the King's immediate Lieutenant within his Liberties and Jurisdiction: And to be within the same, the second Man in the Kingdom: To have one or more Mace or Maces of Gold, or Silver, to be carried before him, for his greater Honour and Dignity: To have a common Seal at Arms, and for the more Honour thereof, the same is allowed to be the Arms of *England*, both in Colour, Charge, and Posture without Difference; impaled with the Arms of Earl *Warren*, the ancient Lord of this Town: And what may yet be said further for the Honour of the same, it was won and gain'd in the Field, which is more than any Corporation in *England* can boast of.

For in the Year 1469. Sir Robert *Wells*, *Dimock*, and *De-la-band*, taking part with *Richard Nevel*, that great Earl of *Warwick*, against King *Edward IV.* they raised a great Army in the County of *Lincoln*, (the King at that Time being at his Castle in *Fotheringhay* in *Northamptonshire*) with which they marched into the Fields between *Rhial*, and *Tintwell*;

The

The King from *Fotheringhay* marched with all his Forces into *Stamford*, where he dined. The Townsmen added a considerable Body of Men, both Horse and Foot to the King's Forces; which gave the Rebels Battle under the Walls of *Stamford*, and totally routed them, and took Prisoners, *Wells*, *Dimock*, and *De-la-band*, who were forthwith beheaded under the Royal Standard.

THE King, to show how sensible he was of their Loyalty and Willingness to serve him, (as an Achievement by them gain'd in the Field) ordered, that from henceforth the Town should bear upon a *Surcoat* the *Banner* Royal of *England*. That is *Mars*, three *Lyons passant gardant impale Sol*, to the Banner of Earl *Warren Checkie*, *Topar* and *Saphire*.

THIS memorable Fight is called in the Story of those Times, *Loose-Coat* Fight; because the Rebels, for their more speedy Flight threw off their Coats. The King also granted to the Town, to do and execute within the same, and Liberties thereof, *Ut ab antiquo usu fuerunt*; which shows, that this Charter is but a new Confirmation of more ancient Privileges.

BUT it has been a great Misfortune to this Corporation, that some of those who have been raised to Places, of the greatest Dignity, have formerly so far abused their Administration, as to destroy her ancient Records, and Charters, so that its ancient Immunities appear no otherwise, than scattered here and there upon the Tower-Roll, and at this Day we can shew none under any authentick Warrant, beyond the Reign of King *Edward IV.* Whether these Records, and Charters, were destroy'd, to advance the Interest of any particular Person; or were so carelessly laid by, that they could never be found again; is nowhere mentioned.

SINCE

SINCE the obtaining of this first Charter, the same hath been confirmed by divers *Inspeximus* from all the Kings and Queens that have been Sovereigns to to the Time of King Charles I. and divers new Grants added: As the Monday Market, the three Fairs of Simon and Jude, Green-Goose, and St. James's Fair. To these we must add, a Grant from Queen Anne for two Fairs, one to be held at Candlesmas, and the other call'd May Fair; having formerly but the Friday Market, and the Great Midlent Mart: The Profits of which only belong to the Lord; these latter to the Corporation.

By a late *Inspeximus*, there is granted to the Alderman, and Burgeses, to hold a Court of Pleas of all Actions Real, Personal, or mixt; to the Value of 40 l. And to hold Sessions, and Goal-delivery, for all Criminal Actions, perpetrated and done within the Liberty.; High Treason, and Petite Treason only excepted.

THIS Town sendeth two Burgeses to Parliament; the present Members are Charles Bertie, and William Noel, Esqrs. So that, along with the Power they have to execute Laws, they have also a Share in making of them: And here we must observe, for the Honour and Credit of this Corporation, that it is not the least tainted, with those abominable Vices, Bribery and Corruption: Well judging, that those, who buy the Devil, will sell him also. It hath been the Policy of Princes in England to have a particular Regard; to secure the ancient Burroughs of this Land with Privileges, for their stronger Defence and Maintenance. In the Time of William the Conqueror it was constituted by the King in these Words: *Item nullum Mercatum vel Forum sit nec fieri permittatur nisi in Civitatibus Regni nostri, et in Burgis clausis, et muro*

muro vallatis, et Castellis, et locis tutissimis ubi consuetudines Regni nostri, et jus nostrum commune, et dignitates Corona nostræ, quæ constitutæ sunt a bonis Prædecessoribus nostris, deperire non possint nec defraudari, nec violari, sed omnia rite et per judicium, et Justitiam fieri debent. Et ideo Castella, et Burgi, et Civitates sunt, et fundatæ, et edificatæ scilicet ad tuitionem gentium et populorum Regni, et ad defensionem Regni: Et idcirco observari debent cum omni libertate et integritate et ratione,

By this it appears, that Cities and antient Burroughs, were instituted for Three Purposes.

FIRST, The preserving of the Customs of the Kingdom, and the common Rights and Dignity of the Crown.

SECONDLY, For the Defence of the Nation, and People.

THIRDLY, Not only for the Defence of the Kingdom, and the more effectual securing the King's Peace and Person; but also for the Preservation of the Laws thereof. By which Laws, it is, that every Man enjoys his own Peace, and Property.

THESE Grants, have made this Corporation, as it were, a small County-Palatine within it self; as it hath a Magistrate of one of its own Members, and Power and Authority, to make such Laws, and Ordinances, as shall bind every Member within its Jurisdiction.

AND by Virtue of this Power given to the Corporation, for the making of good, and wholesome Laws; Richard Wolphe, Gent. Alderman of this Town, at a Common Court or Hall held the 15th Day of March, in the 6th Year of the Reign of King Charles I. with the Advice and Consent of the Com-Burgessees, and Capital-Burgessees in the Common Hall assembled; did ordain and constitute as followeth:

FIRST,

“ 1st. THAT no new Habitation shall be erected
 “ in the said Town, unless it be made fit for the
 “ Dwelling of such Person, as shall be cessed, or
 “ fit to be cessed in the Subsidy at 20 s. in Land,
 “ or 3 l. in Goods at the least (except Hospitals and
 “ Houses of Correction) upon Pain, to forfeit to
 “ the *Alderman* and *Burgesse*, or their Successors,
 “ the Sum of 10 s. for every Month that such Cot-
 “ tage or new Building shall be used for Habitation.

“ 2d. THAT no Barns or other Houses, shall
 “ be converted into Tenements, and no ancient
 “ Tenement shall be divided into Habitations, except
 “ the same so divided shall be made fit for the
 “ Dwelling of subsidy Men of 20 s. Lands, or 3 l.
 “ Goods. The Erector to forfeit 10 s. monthly, and
 “ the Tenant 5 s. monthly to the Use aforesaid.

“ 3d. THAT such who take in Inmates, shall
 “ forfeit 10 s. monthly to the Use aforesaid.

“ 4th. THAT none shall let or assign any Te-
 “ nement, to any one not assessed at 20 s. Lands, or
 “ 3 l. Goods, except to Freemen, (that have not
 “ discontinued from the Town with their Family,
 “ by the Space of one Year before) unless the
 “ Landlord become bound with the Tenant or
 “ one other sufficient Surety in 40 l. to secure
 “ the Town, upon Pain of 5 l. forfeit for the
 “ Contempt, and 10 s. monthly for the Continuance
 “ by the Landlord, and 5 s. monthly by the Te-
 “ nant, to the Use aforesaid.

“ 5th. THAT these Orders, extend not to any that
 “ take in Tenants of 20 s. Land, or 3 l. Goods in
 “ the Subsidy, except they be Inmates.

“ 6th. THAT the *Alderman* for the Time being,
 “ with two of the next *Com-Burgesse* to the Place,
 “ (not being Offenders) shall be Judges, whether
 “ such

“ such Erections, be meet for the Habitation of
 “ such Subsidy Men.

“ 7th. THAT the Streets and Lanes in the said
 “ Town be cleansed every *Saturday*, by the adjacent
 “ Inhabitants; or the Parties delinquent to forfeit,
 “ for every Offence, 6d. and the Constables in that
 “ Precinct, to forfeit for not presenting them at the
 “ next Sessions after the same is committed 2 s. 6 d.
 “ to the Use aforesaid.

“ 8th. THAT no *Alderman* shall presume to make
 “ any Man Free out of the Town-Hall, unless
 “ the same be granted in the open Hall, and the
 “ Fine for such Freedom, there assessed; upon Pain
 “ to forfeit 5 l. to the Use aforesaid.

“ 9th. THAT no Tradesman whatsoever, except
 “ Freemen, shall presume to open any Shops, or
 “ sell any Wares, until they have agreed for their
 “ Freedom upon Pain of forfeiting 10 s. for every
 “ Month, they shall do so.

“ 10th. THAT all the Conduits, Common Wells,
 “ and Pumps about the said Town, shall from time
 “ to time be repaired, at the Town Charge; upon
 “ Pain of forfeiting 6 s. 8 d. apiece by the two
 “ Chamberlains, to the use aforesaid.

“ 11th. THAT so many of the *Com-Burgessees*, or
 “ *Capital-Burgessees* as shall be dwelling within the
 “ Parish, where the *Alderman* or his *Deputy*, for the
 “ Time-being, shall dwell, (having no lawful Excuse
 “ to the contrary) shall attend upon the said *Alderman*,
 “ or his *Deputy*, to, and from his Parish Church,
 “ upon every Lord's Day, both before Noon and
 “ Afternoon, if there be any Sermon at the said
 “ Church, upon Pain for every one offending, to
 “ forfeit 4d. to the Use aforesaid.

“ 12th THAT

“ 12th. THAT all such as have built upon the
 “ Town-Walls, or upon the Rampier thereof, or
 “ made any Doors, or Gates out of the said Walls,
 “ within the space of forty Years, before these Ord-
 “ nances, shall take Leases from the Town, of the
 “ said Passages, or shall forfeit 12d. for every Month,
 “ they shall continue without Leases, to the Use a-
 “ fore said.

“ 13th. THAT the Pinder of the said Town,
 “ shall impound, and take 1d. for every Beast, that
 “ he finds in the Town Streets, and in the Liberties
 “ thereof, not put before the common Herd.

“ 14th. THAT all Forfeitures afore said, shall be
 “ paid to the Chamberlains for the Time being,
 “ who in Default of Payment, shall recover and
 “ levy the same by Action, or Actions of Debt, or
 “ by Distress of the Goods and Chattels of the
 “ Offenders; which Distress being taken, shall be
 “ impounded until the Penalty, for which it was
 “ taken, be fully paid: Or else for Non-payment by
 “ the space of Six Days after the taking, and not in
 “ the mean time replevied, the same to be appraised,
 “ by two indifferent Persons, to be chosen by the
 “ *Alderman* for the Time being, and by the Cham-
 “ berlains sold for the Satisfaction of the said Pe-
 “ nalties, and the Overplus to be delivered, to the
 “ Owner, or Owners of the said Goods.

“ 15th THAT the several Sums hereafter to be paid,
 “ recovered, or levied, by virtue of the Ordinances,
 “ or any of them, shall be from time to time employ'd
 “ to, and for the Good of the Poor of the said
 “ Town of *Stamford*, and no otherwise.”

THESE LAWS, Constitutions, and Ordinances, were
 in the same Year viewed, approv'd, and confirm'd
 under the Hands and Seals of Sir *Richard Hutton*,
 Knt. then one of the Justices of his Majesty's Court

of *Common-Pleas* : And Sir George Crook, Knt. one of his Majesty's Justices of the Court of *King's-Bench*, being then two Judges of the Assizes for the County of *Lincoln* ; and thereby made Laws according to the Form and Statute in that Case made and provided, 19 *Hen*, 7. *Chap*. 7. But these Laws, tho' Good in themselves, have been as much neglected by some, as religiously observed by others; so that they have remain'd as so many dead Letters, for want of that quickening Spirit, which the Authority of the Magistrates ought to put in them, by a just and impartial Execution. For as in Cases Capital, the Death of the Malefactor is the Life of the Law; so in all Offences of a less Nature, the due Punishment of the Offender reminds us, that the wise Legislators of Old have for the Preservation of the Good, and Innocent, provided adequate Punishments for the Misdemeanors of the Profligate and Petite Offender : And therefore when Magistrates through Idleness, or Partiality, forbear to do their Duty, they become the Encouragers of *Wickedness* and *Vice*, and make themselves *Partakers* of other *Mens Sins* : Neither will such Magistrates be had long in Esteem, even by the Offenders themselves; for when they perceive, that thro' Negligence there is not a due Execution of the Laws, they will pride themselves in their Wickedness, and boast of it in the Face of Justice; since they know they may offend without Controul : Therefore, as *Solomon* speaks in his Proverbs, *When the Righteous are in Authority, the People rejoyce : But when the Wicked bear Rule, the People mourn.*

C H A P. V.

The Dignity of the Word Alderman, the Manner of Choosing Him, and other subordinate Officers in STAMFORD, by which Means the said Body is from Time to Time, kept in Life and Being.

SINCE this Town had for its principal Magistrate an *Alderman*, I hope it won't be judged improper, if before I relate the manner of His Election, I say something of the Dignity and Antiquity of the Word *Alderman* it self: Long before the *Norman Conquest*, it was held in great Esteem, far above any other Name of Magistrate at this time appointed; for we must observe, that in the old *Saxon* Titles, the Word *Alderman* or *Duke*, was one and the same: And the Book of the Church of *Worcester* saith, that *Alderman* is sometimes express'd by *Regulus et Subregulus*, sometimes by *Patricius*, *Princeps*, *Dux*, *Comes*, et *Consul*, nor is it without Example that they are call'd *Reges*: There was an old Inscription in the Abby of *Ramsay* of one *Alwin*, who was *Alderman* of all *England*, under King *Atbelstan*: Whose Epitaph is as follows.

*HIC REQVIESCIT AILWINVS INCLITI REGIS EDGARI COGNATVS, TOTIVS ANGLIÆ ALDERMANNVS, ET HVIVS SACRI COENOBII MIRACVLOSVS FVNDATOR.

* Camden, p. 422.

HOVENDEN saith, *Alderman* is in *English*, what *Senior* is in *Latin*, and others make Use of it in the same Manner: Those whom the *Romans* formerly called *Senators*, were afterwards by the *Saxons* called *Aldermen*. Having thus done Justice to the Title

Title of the Prime Magistrate of this Corporation, I shall now proceed to give an Account of his Election, as well as of those subordinate Officers which are under his Direction.

KING *Edward VI.* in the first Year of his Reign, directed his Letters Patents to *George Chapman* and others, by the Name of the *Aldermen* and *Common-Burgessees* of *Stamford*, and to Twelve more of an inferior Rank, by the the Name of *Capital-Burgessees* of *Stamford*, which Second Twelve have been by a later Charter, augmented to the Number of Twenty Four. And as King *Edward* created this Body by his Princely Power, so his great Wisdom and Policy, gave Rules and Directions to the same, how it should from Time to Time be preserved, in a perpetual Life and Being by a continued Succession: And therefore, when any of the first Number do decease, or a Place become void; the *Alderman*, with the rest of his Company, and the Second Company in their Common Hall assembled, do Elect and Chuse, out of their Second Number, such a discreet and able Man, as they shall think fit, for the Supply of the Place vacant. The said Election being made in the private Chamber, by the *Alderman*, and those with him of the First Number, and this by the Major Number of Voices, the *Alderman* having in this, as in all other Votes, a double or casting Voice. And when any of the Second Number decease; or be misplaced; both Companies joining together, the Major Number of Voices, chuse out of the Body of the whole Town such a discreet, able, and sufficient Man, as shall be thought proper to supply the vacant Place.

BOTH Companies being thus fill'd, meet in their Common Hall every Year upon the first *Thursday*, after the Feast of *St. Bartholomew* the Apostle, to Elect

Elect two out of the First Number, who have not been *Alderman* by the space of two Years then past, to the End, that one of those two, the first *Thursday* in the Week next after the Feast of St. *Michael*, the Arch-Angel, then following, may by the Major Suffrages of both the Companies, be chosen, to be *Alderman* for the Year then to come ; which Person thus elected, is brought, and presented by his Predecessor to the Steward of the Court-Leet, in the open Court, after the Proclamation made in solemn Manner to that Purpose : The Ceremony of which Day is as followeth.

THE former *Alderman* attended by the First and Second Companies, the First Company in their Robes of Purple faced with Foynes, (such as the Second Robe of *London* is) and the Second Company, in their deen Gowns of black, fit for such an Assembly ; do repair to the House of the new elected *Alderman*, where after a short Banquet, they do all pass in Order to the Castle-Yard, where the Leet is kept ; and there being presented, he is solemnly sworn by the Steward of the Leet, first taking the Oath of Supremacy and Allegiance ; next the Oath of Justice of the Peace ; and *Alderman* of the Corporation : And a Tippet of Black Velvet taken from the Neck of his Predecessor, and by the Hands of his said Predecessor, is put upon his, then he is seated on the Right-Hand of the Steward, where he sits till the Charge be given. After this he is attended by the several Companies, to the Church of St. *Mary*, where they hear a Sermon ; which being finished, the new *Alderman* passes to his House with the two Maces, born before him, attended by the several Companies aforesaid, with the Town Musick playing before them : And in divers Places as they pass, the Scholars of the *Free-Grammar* School do pronounce before them, several Orations in *Greek* and *Latin*. AFTER

AFTER which the *Alderman* at his own House (for the most part) and at his own Cost, and Charges, doth make an Entertainment for the Town, and to as many of the Gentry of the Country, as upon Invitation think proper to favour him with their Company.

THIS Solemnity being finished, presently after, he keeps his first Court, (which is called a Hall) where he swears all his First Company, to be faithful to him, and truly to Council him in the Execution of his Office. He likewise swears the Second Company to be aiding and assisting unto him in all Things, that appertain to the *Aldermanry*, during the Time of his Office. The *Town-Clerk* takes an Oath, for the due Execution of his Office; the *Coroner* of the Town, is likewise then sworn, who is the same Person, that was *Alderman* the Year before. Next the two *Chamberlains* are sworn; and all the *Constables*, with the *Searchers* for Corn, Flesh, Fish, *Sealers* and *Searchers* of Leather, and all other inferior Officers; as the *Bailiff* of the Liberty, the *Serjeant* at Mace, are chosen and sworn faithfully to perform, and execute their several Offices during the Year next ensuing.



CHAP. VI.

A List of the Names and Succession, of the Aldermen of STAMFORD, since the Time of the first Incorporating of that Town by Letters Patents, according to the Year of our Lord, in which each of them Governed: With an Account of STAMFORD being made a Mayor-Town, and an Abstract of the most material Things contain'd in the Charter: With the Names of the first Mayor, Twelve Aldermen, and Twenty Four Capital-Burgesses: Together with a particular Account of each succeeding Mayor to this present Time.

WE have observed that this Town was governed by prescriptive Magistrates, long before King Edward IV's Charter; which we here call the *Aldermen* of the *Gild*: But Rebellious Times succeeding, Records being ill kept, and the Town consumed by Fire, many of the ancient Records were lost. Yet nevertheless, by a Roll which was preserv'd by George Hill, Steward of the Town; there will appear 60 of those *Aldermen*, which successively ruled this Town by Prescriptions, before the Charter of King Edward IV. made to George Chapman: And this I believe will appear as early an Account, as any Person can give, notwithstanding the World may have large Expectations, from some *Folio Proposals*. The Names and Time of their Government in Order follow.

F

Aldermen

ALDERMEN of the GILD.

1398	George Wyches.	1428	John Longe.
1399	Stephen Marey	1429	John Page.
1400	Robert Locksmith.	1430	Richard Lee.
1401	John Stanby.	1431	Laurence Melton.
1402	Thomas Storine.	1432	William Marwood.
1403	Thomas Spicer.	1433	Richard Lee, 2.
1404	Ralph Harwood.	1434	Laurence Melton, 2.
1405	John Palfreeman.	1435	William Browne.
1406	Ralph Browne.	1436	Wm. Marwood, 2.
1407	John Stacy.	1437	Richard Lee, 3.
1408	Alexander Haine.	1438	Robert Browne.
1409	Robt. Locksmith, 2.	1439	William Sturton.
1410	Thomas Bassfet.	1440	Thomas Balksay.
1411	John Browne.	1441	William Browne, 2.
1412	William Locksmith	1442	John Page, 2.
1413	John Stanby, 2.	1443	Richard Lee, 4.
1414	John Palfreeman, 2.	1444	Laurence Melton, 3.
1415	Alexander Mercer.	1445	John Browne, 4.
1416	John Allock.	1446	William Browne, 3.
1417	Andrew Draper.	1447	William Sturton, 2.
1418	Thomas Bassfet, 2.	1448	Richard Blagwin.
1419	John Browne, 2.	1449	Thomas Gregory.
1420	Thomas Ralph.	1450	John Browne, 5.
1421	Thomas Spicer, 2.	1451	Laurence Melton, 4.
1422	John Palfreeman, 3.	1452	John Gregory.
1423	John Whitfede.	1453	John Page, 2.
1424	John Browne, 3.	1454	William Hickham.
1425	Robert Bendboar.	1455	William Sturton, 3.
1426	Thomas Bassfet, 3.	1456	Thomas Gregory, 2.
1427	Thomas Spicer, 3.	1457	William Browne, 4.

The

*The Names of such Aldermen of Stamford,
as have been since the Charter granted
by King Edward IV. With the Years in
which each of them Govern'd.*

1461	G eorge Chapman	1490	William Gayeweed.
1462	John Browne, Esqr;	1491	Christ. Browne, 2.
1463	John Gregory.	1492	Nicholas Byllisdine.
1464	William Hickham.	1493	John Dickons, 3.
1465	Robert Hannse.	1494	Tho. Edwards; Esqr;
1466	Wm. Browne, Esqr;	1495	Wm. Radcliffe, Esqr;
1467	William Hickham, 2.	1496	John Cleypoole.
1468	George Chapman, 2.	1497	Richard Cannel.
1469	Thomas Kestone.	1498	Robert Cranne.
1470	Wm. Browne, Esqr; 2	1499	Thomas Phillipps, 2.
1471	John Gregory, 2.	1500	Jeffery Hampton.
1472	Robert Hannse, 2.	1501	Nicholas Byllisdine, 2
1473	John Neale.	1502	Christ. Browne, 3.
1474	Alexander Dyatt.	1503	Wm. Radcliffe, 2.
1475	John Gebbes.	1504	David Cecill, Esqr;
1476	John Dickons.	1505	Nicho. Trige Gent.
1477	Henry Coke, Esqr;	1506	Thomas Lacye.
1478	Robert Skinner.	1507	John Cobe.
1479	William Hickham, 3	1508	John Hardgrave, Esq;
1480	George Chapman, 3	1509	John Tyard.
1481	Robert Hannse, 3.	1510	Rich. Wassen, Esqr;
1482	Christ. Browne, Esqr;	1511	Robert Martindalle.
1483	John Dickons, Esqr; 2	1512	Wm. Radcliffe; 3.
1484	David Malpase.	1513	John Ley, Gent.
1485	John Steede.	1514	William Rannkell.
1486	Thomas Kestone, 2.	1515	David Cecill, Esqr; 2
1487	Henry Coke, Esqr; 2	1516	John Cobe, 2.
1488	John Frebarne.	1517	Maurice Johnstone.
1489	Thomas Phillipps	1518	Thomas Crosse.
		1519	John Thomas.

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| 1520 John Hardgrave Esq; 2 | 1556 Nicholas Wylees. 2. |
| 1521 Henry Lacye, Gent. | 1557 Francis Thorney. |
| 1522 Wm. Radcliffe, 4. | 1558 John Haughton. |
| 1523 John Ley, 2. | 1459 John Rider. |
| 1524 Andrew Canne. | 1560 William Bagot. |
| 1525 Ed. Browne, Esqr; | 1561 Henry Inman. |
| 1526 David Cecill, Esqr; 3 | 1562 Thomas Bealle. |
| 1527 Maurice Johnstone, 2. | 1563 Ralph Harrep, 2. |
| 1528 John Hardgrave Esq; 3 | 1564 Wm. Campinett, 2. |
| 1529 Thomas Crosse, 2. | 1565 Godfrey Dawstone. |
| 1530 John Ley, 3. | 1566 John Haughton, 2. |
| 1531 Henry Lacye, 2. | 1567 Gregory Burton. |
| 1532 Thomas Watstone. | 1568 Alexander Anthony. |
| 1533 Richard Engham. | 1569 Reginald Harrystone. |
| 1534 Roger Bealle. | 1570 Henry Inman, 2. |
| 1535 Thomas Gedney. | 1571 John Backhowse. |
| 1536 Robert Haver. | 1572 Richard Bartone. |
| 1537 Andrew Canne, 3. | 1573 William Lacy, Gent. |
| 1538 Maurice Johnstone, 3. | 1574 John Hawkins. |
| 1539 Henry Lacye, 3. | 1575 John Haughton, 3. |
| 1540 Thomas Watstone, 2. | 1576 Wm. Campinett, 3. |
| 1541 John Fenton. | 1577 Godfrey Dawstone, 2. |
| 1542 John Allenn. | 1578 John Elmes, Gent. |
| 1543 Roger Bealle, 2. | 1579 Richard Evely. |
| 1544 William Button. | 1580 John Wimblesby. |
| 1545 Robert Winwick. | 1581 John Haughton, 4. |
| 1546 Nicholas Wylees. | 1582 Reginald Harryson, 2 |
| 1547 Henry Ley, Gent. | 1583 Rich. Shutte, Gent. |
| 1548 William Wylees. | 1584 Robert Medowes. |
| 1549 Thomas Watstone, 3. | 1585 William Clarke. |
| 1550 Andrew Scarre. | 1586 Laurence Wilsbey. |
| 1551 John Fenton 2. | 1587 Tobias Lovedaye. |
| 1552 William Campinett. | 1588 Anthony Gunson. |
| 1553 John Allenn 2. | 1589 Robert Langton. |
| 1554 Ralph Harrep | 1590 Robert Ramesdenn. |
| 1555 Henry Tampione. | 1591 Rich. Shutte, Gent 2 |
| | 1592 Rich, |

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1592 Rich. Shutte, Gent. 3. | 1628 Peter Fullwood, 2. |
| 1593 William Watson. | 1629 Edmund Corker, 2. |
| 1594 Robert Medowes, 2. | 1630 Richard Wolphe. |
| 1595 Curbert Grenebery. | 1631 Vincent Halle, 2. |
| 1596 William Clarke, 2. | 1632 John Attone. |
| 1597 Lionel Fetherstonne. | 1633 Edward Camocke. |
| 1598 Nicholas Lambe. | 1634 Thomas Palmer. |
| 1599 John Elmes, Gent. 2. | 1635 Abraham Faulkner. |
| 1600 Robert Medowes, 3. | 1636 Henry Eldered. |
| 1601 Tobias Lovedaye, 2. | 1637 Henry Rastell, 2. |
| 1602 William Salter. | 1638 Richard Wolphe, 2. |
| 1603 Reginald Waters. | 1639 Leanard Cole. |
| 1604 Wm. Salter, Gent. 2. | 1640 Jeremiah Cole. |
| 1605 Wm. Clarke, 3. | 1641 Rich. Langton. |
| 1606 John Lovedaye. | 1642 Robert Camocke. |
| 1607 Robert Ramsdenn, 2. | 1643 Edw. Camocke, 2. |
| 1608 John Browne, Esqr. | 1644 Vincent Halle, 3. |
| 1609 Lionel Fetherstonne 2 | 1645 Richard Dannald. |
| 1610 Thomas Jacksonn. | 1646 Robert Fawcett. |
| 1611 Robert Whatton. | 1647 John Bullocke. |
| 1612 Francis Colle. | 1648 Jeremiah Cole 2. |
| 1613 Robert Fawcett. | 1649 Robt. Camocke, 2. |
| 1614 Tobias Lovedaye, 3. | 1650 James Langton. |
| 1615 Tho. Watfone. | 1651 John Palmer. |
| 1616 Tobias Halleloke. | 1652 Abraham Faulkner, 2. |
| 1617 Edmund Corker. | 1653 Edward Johnfone. |
| 1618 Wm. Salter, Gent. 3. | 1654 Robert Willfone. |
| 1619 John Browne Esqr; 2. | 1655 Richard Dannald, 2. |
| 1620 Thomas Grafone. | 1656 Thomas Norris. |
| 1621 Thomas Jackfone, 2. | 1657 Francis Dalbye. |
| 1622 Robert Whatton, 2. | 1658 John Palmer, 2. |
| 1623 Peter Fullwood. | 1659 James Langton, 2. |
| 1624 Henry Rastell, Gent. | 1660 Daniel Thorogood. |
| 1625 Vincent Halle. | 1661 Robert Whatton. |
| 1626 Henry Deathe, Gent. | 1662 George Hill. |
| 1627 Nicholas Lambe. | |

In the Year 1003. King Charles II. calling in all Charters, dissanulled this *Aldermanry*, but granted them a fresh Charter, fulfilling all former Grants, and Privileges, the Chief of which Particulars are as follow.

First Sheet, first Letter. " IN the Preface of the Charter, ancient Privileges, whether by Prescripti-
" on, or former Charters, are confirmed, with new
" Additions of further Privileges, &c.

Second Letter. " STAMFORD established, and made a
" free Burrough for ever, with her ancient Bounds, and
" Limits, and incorporated by the Name of a Mayor,
" Aldermen, and Capital-Burgeses, whose Names are
" particularly expressed, in the Patent. They have
" Power by the Law, to purchase, sell, sue, and be
" sued, receive and possels Lands, Tenements, and
" Liberties, Privileges, Franchises, Jurisdictions, and
" Hereditaments, and they may have a common Seal,
" which they may break at pleasure.

Third Letter. " THAT there be for ever one
" Mayor, to be chosen out of Thirteen Aldermen,
" and Twenty Four Capital-Burgeses.

Fourth Letter. " WILLIAM Azlack named the first
" Mayor; the first Twelve named Aldermen, and
" the Twenty Four named the Capital-Burgeses;
" and the Mayor to continue in his Office, until
" Thursday in the first Week after the Feast of St.
" Michael, and so successively until some other of the
" Aldermen of the said Burrough, be sworn into the
" said Office.: The Aldermen and Capital-Burgeses,
" to continue in their Places during Life, unless re-
" moved for Misdemeanor, by the major Votes, of
" the Mayor, Aldermen, and Capital-Burgeses, where-
" of the Mayor shall be one.

Fifth

Fifth Letter. "THE Twenty Four *Capital-Bur-*
gesses, made the Common Council of the Town,
 "and to join with the *Mayor* and *Aldermen*, in all
 "Town Affairs.

Sixth Letter. "THE *Mayor*, *Aldermen*, and *Cap-*
ital-Burgeses, have Power to make Laws, to punish
 "by Imprisonment, or otherways, the Infringers of
 "such Laws, by the Judgment of the *Mayor*,
 "Aldermen, and *Capital-Burgeses*, or the greater Part
 "of them, whereof the *Mayor* to be one, so that the
 "said Laws, and Constitutions, be not repugnant to
 "the Laws, and Statutes of the Kingdom.

Eighth Letter. "THAT the now *Mayor* and
 "his Successor, shall yearly take his Oath, in the
 "Town-Hall, before five or more of the *Aldermen*.
 "The Oath to be administred by the *Recorder*, or
 "Town-Clerk.

Ninth Letter. "THAT the *Aldermen* and *Capital-*
Burgeses, do take yearly, the like Oath before the
 "Mayor, when such of them are elected into their
 "respective Places.

Tenth Letter. "THE *Mayor*, *Aldermen*, and *Cap-*
ital-Burgeses, or the greater Part of them, whereof
 "the *Mayor* to be one, shall for ever, yearly, on
 "Thursday next after St. *Bartholomew*, in the Com-
 "mon-Hall assembled; choose two discreet *Aldermen*,
 "that were not *Mayor*, or in that Office by the space
 "of two Years before, one of which two (the *May-*
 "or, *Aldermen*, and *Capital-Burgeses*, or the greater
 "Part of them, whereof the *Mayor* to be one,) shall
 "upon Thursday, the first Week after St. *Michael*,
 "be chosen *Mayor*, for the ensuing Year, and
 "shall be sworn for the due Execution of his Office
 "as aforesaid, and continue in the same, till
 "one other be chosen, and sworn in his room, un-
 "less removed for some great Offence.

In

In the Second Sheet.

First Letter. "THAT if the Mayor die, or be removed, within the Year, the Aldermen, and Capital-Burgesſes, or the greater Part of them, ſhall in fifteen Days, chooſe two of the Aldermen, which were not in the Office, by the ſpace of two Years before, one of which, ſhall by the Electors aforeſaid, be ſworn, and ſerve out the Year of the Mayor deceaſed or removed as aforeſaid.

Second Letter. "AND if any of the Aldermen die, or be removed the Mayor Aldermen and Capital-Burgesſes, or the greater Part of them, whereof the Mayor to be one, ſhall chooſe one Other out of the Capital-Burgesſes, to be Alderman in the room of the Deceaſed or Removed.

Third Letter. "IF any of the Capital-Burgesſes die, or be removed, the Mayor, Aldermen, and the reſidue of the Capital-Burgesſes, or the greater Part of them, whereof the Mayor to be one, ſhall chooſe out of the Body of the Burgesſes, an able, honeſt Man to ſupply the Place void.

Fourth Letter. "THE Mayor to make his Deputy, out of one of the five eldeſt Aldermen, in the Time of his Sickneſs or Abſence, which Deputy ſhall have as much Power for the Time Being as the Mayor.

Fifth Letter. "THE Mayor, Aldermen, and Capital-Burgesſes, ſhall continue in their Places, as aforeſaid, from the Date of the Charter, during Life, and the Laws, and Conſtitutions by them made, to be and continue in force.

Sixth Letter. "THE Mayor, Aldermen, and Capital-Burgesſes, to chooſe other Inferior Officers, which

“ which Officers, are to be sworn, before the Mayor,
 “ for the Time being, as of ancient Custom such
 “ Officers have used.

Seventh Letter. “ For the better Relief of the
 “ Poor, and setting them to Work, a Wool-Market;
 “ is granted to *Stanford*, so that it is not prejudicial to
 “ the neighbouring Towns.

Eight Letter. “ THAT the Profits made of the
 “ said Wool-Market, shall be for the Relief of the
 “ Poor.

Ninth Letter. “ A Court of Record granted to
 “ the Corporation, to be held weekly, every Thurs-
 “ day, and to try Actions, of Trespas. *Vi. et*
 “ *armis*, real, personal, or mixt, to the Value of 40 l.

Tenth Letter. “ THE Mayor, with one Learned
 “ in the Law, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, or 2
 “ Aldermen, shall hold and keep a Sessions of the
 “ Peace.

Eleventh Letter. “ THE Corporation to have all
 “ Fines, Forfeitures, Amercements, and Out-law’d
 “ Goods for the Support of the said Town Charges.

Twelfth Letter. “ THE Mayor, Aldermen, and Ca-
 “ pital-Burgesses, from Year to Year, to choose a Coro-
 “ ner out of the Thirteen Aldermen.

In the Third Sheet.

First Letter. “ THE Town to have the Re-
 “ turn of all Warrants and Precepts, no Sheriff or
 “ Bailiff, to enter the Liberty, upon Pain of a grievous
 “ Forfeiture.

Second Letter. “ THE Mayor, Aldermen, and Ca-
 “ pital-Burgesses, to have the Oversight, Correction,
 “ and Punishment, of Bread, Wine, Ale, and Victu-
 “ als, saving to the Lords of the Fee of the said

G

“ Town,

" Town, all and singular Fines, growing and arising
 " by such Corrections or Punishments.

Third Letter. " THE Mayor, Aldermen, Capital-
 " Burgesses, and Town-Clerk, for the Acknowledge-
 " ment of Debts, according to the Statute of *Action*
 " *Burnall*, shall have Power to make the same Re-
 " cognizances.

Fourth Letter. " RICHARD Butcher, Gentleman,
 " made Town-Clerk, and Clerk of the Statutes, by the
 " King's special Appointment.

Fifth, and Sixth Letter. " THE said Richard But-
 " cher, to reside in the said Office, during his Life;
 " unless removed for some notorious Offence, and
 " may take such Fees in his Office as others do.

Seventh Letter. " THE present Mayor and Alder-
 " men, before they enter into their respective Offices,
 " shall take the Oaths of Justices of the Peace, before
 " Sir William Trollop, Bart. Sir. Christopher Chapman,
 " Knt. William Hyde, and Francis Winsfield, Esqrs; or
 " before one of them.

Eighth Letter. " THE Mayor and Aldermen, for
 " the Time to come, before they enter into their
 " Offices, shall take the Oaths of Justices of the
 " Peace, Allegiance, and Supremacy, before the May-
 " or for the Time Being, or before any Alderman, or
 " two of them, without any other Commission,
 " than the present Charter.

Ninth Letter. " THAT all manner of Goods,
 " Grants, Demises, Depositions, Powers of managing,
 " and other Powers, Interesses, and Authorities what-
 " soever, concerning any pious Use or Charity
 " whatsoever, which before the making of this Char-
 " ter, was planted in the Alderman, shall be now
 " planted in the Mayor, Aldermen, and Capital-Bur-
 " gesses.

Tenth Letter. " TOWN Lands, Fairs, and Markets,
 " continued to the Corporation. In

In the Middle of the Fourth Sheet.

First, and Second Letter. "ALL the former Liberties confirmed, all his Majesty's Officers commanded, not to molest the Corporation, for any thing done before the last Letters Patents.

Third Letter. "THAT the Mayor, Recorder, Capital-Burgesses, and Town-Clerk, and all the Officers and Ministers in the said Town, and all Justices of the Peace within the same, before they meddle with the Execution of their Offices, shall take the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy.

Fourth Letter. "THAT no Recorder, or Town-Clerk hereafter, be chosen before, they or either of them, be approved by the King, his Heirs, or Successors.

Fifth Letter. "THAT the express mention of the true yearly Value, of the certainty of the Premises, or any of them, or of other Demises, or Grants by the King, or of his Progenitors, or Predecessors to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Capital-Burgesses of Stamford aforesaid, before this Time, or any Statute, Act, Device, Provision, or Proclamation, or otherwise notwithstanding."

Dated at *Westminster* the 9th of *February*, in the 16th Year of the King.

By the King.

HOWARD.

*The Names of the First Mayor, Aldermen,
and Capital Burgeses.*

WM. Azlack,
Mayor.

John Palmer.
Robert Wilfon.
Thomas Norris.
Dan. Thorogood
Robert Whatton.
George Hill.
Tho. Thorogood
Tho. Hawkins.
Simon Walburge
Dan. Wigmore.
Laur. Roberts.
John Dexter.

Capital-Burgeses.

John Parsons.	Robert Algar.
Edward Clark.	Robert Hull.
Rob. Cammock.	John Rogers.
William Larret.	Humph. Potteril.
George Cosens.	Fra. Barnwell.
Francis Blithe.	Wm. Stroude.
Humphrey Ilife.	Tho. Caughton.
Peter Mapletoft.	Wm. Wolph.
Alexand. Bishop.	Wm. Anthony.
Edward Curtis.	Phile. Uffington.
John Anthony.	Richard Mace.
Robert Butcher.	Tobias Azlack.

*Next follow in Order, a Succession of the
Mayors to this present Time.*

1663 **W**illiam Azlack.

1664 Thomas Tho-
rogood.

1665 Thomas Hawkins.

1666 Simon Walburge.

1667 Daniel Wigmore.

Laur. Robbins, and

1668 Wm. Azlack, 2.

1669 Peter Mapletoft.

1670 Edward Curtis.

1671 William Larret.

1672 Richard Warwick.

1673 Tho. Pilkinton, Esq;

1674 John Palmer.

1675 John Rogers.

1676 Philemon Uffington.

1677 Daniel Wigmore, 2.

1678 George Hawkins.

1679 Edward Sharp.

1680 William Stroud.

1681 Samuel Simonds.

1682 Tho. Thorogood.

1683 John Langton.

Tho. Hawkins, and

1684 Dan. Wigmore, 2.

1685 The Hon. Ch. Bertie

1686 Stafford

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1686 Stafford Thorp. | 1711 The Hon. Charles |
| 1687 William Feast. | Cecil, Member |
| 1688 Thomas Hawkins. | of Parliament for |
| 1689 John Butcher. | the Burrough. |
| 1690 Mathew Wyche. | 1712 Leon. Thorogood 2. |
| 1691 Laurence East. | 1713 Charles Bertie, Esq; |
| 1692 Thomas Linthwait. | 1714 Richard Brookes. |
| 1693 Richard Austin | 1715 Samuel Rofs. |
| 1694 Edward Barlow. | 1716 Francis Wilcox, 2. |
| 1695 Nicholas Love. | 1717 John Goodhall. |
| 1696 Robert Curtis. | 1718 John Seaton, 2. |
| 1697 Leon. Thorogood. | Tho. Linthwait, 3. |
| 1698 John Rogers, 2. | and Leon. Tho- |
| 1699 George Hawkins, 2. | 1719 rogood 3. |
| 1700 John Butcher. | 1720 Robert Collington. |
| 1701 Mathew Wyche, 2. | 1721 Joshua Blackwell, |
| 1702 Francis Wilcox. | Gent. 2. |
| 1703 William Feast, 2. | 1722 George Denfshire, 2. |
| 1704 John Seaton. | 1723 John South, |
| 1705 John Palmer, 2. | 1724 Henry Butcher. |
| 1706 Tho. Linthwait, 2. | 1725 Peter Simonds. |
| 1707 Robert Langton. | 1726 The Hon. William |
| Joshua Blackwell, | Cecil, Brother to |
| 1708 Gent. | the present Noble |
| 1709 Geoge Denfshire. | Earl of Exeter. |
| 1710 John Rogers, Jun. | |

. C H A P. VII.

*Such Memorable Things, as have happened
at several Times, in or about STAM-
FORD.*

INGULPHUS in his History of *Croyland*, observes, when the *Danes* invaded *England*, and burnt the *Abby* of *Croyland*; they put to Sword all the Monks in the same: After which they marched towards *Stamford*: The then *Baron* of *Eafindine*, with the Men of *Stamford*, gave them Battle, and beat them back, though afterwards they return'd to the Destruction of the same.

IN the Year 1153. King *Stephen* held the Castle of *Stamford*, against *Henry Anjou* who besieged, and took the same.

IN the Year 1189. the *Jews* in this Town was barbarously butchered by the Inhabitants; and several Others that repaired to the Midlent Mart were robbed of their Goods, by certain Thieves whom *Gerard de Camville*, then Lord Chancellor, was thought to protect, he was accused of the Fact before all the Judges, but was acquitted.

IN the Year 1215. the Barons got a strong Party of the Nobility, resolving to carry on their Designs; since King *John* would not restore their Liberties, confirmed by the Charter of King *Henry I.* they met at *Stamford* in Easter Week, with a very great Army.

IN the Year 1227. there was a great Meeting at *Stamford*, of divers Lords, about Plotting Rebellion against *Henry III.* This was afterwards called the *Barons War*.

IN the Year 1293. 1300. 1311. general Chapters called *Itinere minorum* were held at *Stamford*.

IN

IN the Year 1301. *Nicholas de Stamford* flourished here, He was a *Bernardine* Monk, and a great Writer. *Leland* gives him a great Character, for he admired that a Man could write so solidly, and smartly, considering the strange Superstitions, and ignorant Times he lived in.

IN the Year 1377. King *Edward II.* held here a great Council of War, about an Expedition into *France*; but it being in that unactive Reign, it came to nothing.

IN the Year 1462. *Edward IV.* came to *Stamford*, and was entertained by *John Browne*, who was then *Alderman*.

IN the Year 1392. there was a Meeting at *Stamford* called *Consilium Stamfordiense Prelatorum*; at which Meeting King *Richard* himself was present by the Command of *Pope Boniface IX.* about the Suppression of *Wickliffe's* Opinions.

ABOUT the Year 1532. King *Henry VIII.* came to *Stamford* in his Progress into *Lincolnshire*. He was sumptuously entertained by *Henry Lacy* who was then *Alderman*. When the Towns in *Lincolnshire* gave Money to this King in his Progress, as he was returning to his Palace, this Town gave him Twenty Pounds.

IN the Year 1539. King *Henry VIII.* went through *Stamford*, in his Journey to *York*.

IN the Year 1558. the Town Hall over the Bridge-Gate, was built by *John Haughton* then *Alderman*. In the same Year *Francis Dalby*, Gentleman, began and finished, that useful Structure, called the *New Jayl*, or *Bailiff's House*; for the Bailiff of the Liberty to inhabit in: And there to keep Debtors, or Prisoners of the better Sort, out of the Common Jayl: This was very much wanted. There has since been added a very good Dining-Room, adjoining to the

the Hall, which was made so spacious, that the Mayors frequently keep their Sessions Dinner there.

IN the Year 1565. Queen *Elizabeth* dinèd in the *White-Fryers*, *Godfrey Daresone* being then *Alderman*; and as ancient Writings observe, She had no sooner left the House, but it fell down to the Ground.

IN 1602. King *James*, at his first coming into *England*, came to *Stamford*, and was welcomed by *William Salter*, *Alderman*, and his Brethren on Horse-back, in their Gowns, each one riding on his Foot-Cloth; and the Second Company in their proper Gowns.

IN the Year 1602. the *Plague* began in *Stamford*, on the tenth of October, and continued for the space of one Year; in which Time there died of it, in the Parish of *All-Saints* 19 Housholders, and 7 fled; *St. John's*, 16 Housholders, 10 fled; *St. Michael's*, 27 Housholders, 11 fled; *St. Mary's*, 12 Housholders, 15 fled; *St. Martin's*, and *Wothorpe* died 166. In 1641. about the Feast of *St. James*, the *Plague* began again in *Stamford*, and continued, with great Mortality, throughout the whole Town; till the March following: But the Civil Wars breaking out, and great Confusion attending there upon, the Registers were not carefully kept; yet by the common Reports of those Times, there died about 5 or 600.

IN the Year 1632. King *Charles* lay in *Stamford-Baron* one Night, as he passed into *Scotland*, to receive the Crown of that Kingdom; and then passed through the Corporation the next Day. *John Atton*, the then *Alderman*, bearing the Mace before Him; the said *Alderman* and all the First Company, mounted upon Horseback, and riding in their Robes upon their Foot-Cloths.

IN

IN the Year 1633. King *Charles* and his Queen, passed through the Town in State; *Edward Camocke*, the then *Alderman*, bearing the Mace before them.

IN *April* 1641. by the means of a strong West Wind, and great Rain, the River *Weland*, swelled to such a Degree, that it went over the North-End of *Stamford* Bridge, and flowed up *St. Mary's-Hill*, the Midway to *St. Mary's-Church*: And on the South Side it drowned the *New Bead-House*, and the Inn called the *George*, insomuch, that some Horses were drowned in the Stables; this Flood was so high in the Yard, that a Horse would have swam in it.

I must not omit to mention the Story of *Samuel Wallis's* wonderful and miraculous Cure from a Deep Consumption in 1658. since several Authors gave so much Credit to it, and call'd the Clergy of those Times, so many Pharisees among the Jews, because they would not join in the same implicit Belief. This great Cure was performed in twelve Days, by Vertue of two Leaves of *Red Sage* and one of *Bloodwort*, infused in Small Beer. I have now the whole Story before me, signed by *Wallis* himself, and must own, I think there is but little Credit to be given to it, and we may as well believe he was inspired that said

Cur moriatur Homo cui Salvia creffit in Horto,

as that the Person who appeared to *Wallis*, was an immediate Messenger from God, and could I suffer my self to impose upon my Readers such sort of Stories, I should soon swell this small *Essay*, into a *Folio Edition*.

IN the Year 1696. on the 28th of October King *William* came to *Stamford*, and lay at *Mrs. Ryley's* House in *Stamford-Baron*; that Evening He went to

H

see

see *Burghley*, now the Seat of the Right Honourable *Brownlow* Earl of *Exeter*, and so much pleased was his Majesty with the Building, and fine Paintings, that he went again the next Morning to have a second View of them. Indeed it is a Seat truly Noble and Magnificent ; the Fabrick is stately and regular, adorned with Turrets, and Cupola's, which however ancient the Architecture is, appears with a surprizing Grandeur, and is universally allowed to have a marvellous Effect upon the Eye in Prospect. We behold in the great Court, the 3 *Greek* Orders of Pillars, the *Doric*, *Ionic*, and *Corinthian*, regularly disposed above one another. On the Inside, the many noble Rooms of State, the rich and excellent Furniture, the Beds, Skreens, Cabinets, and delicate Collection of Sea-Shells, and diverse other remarkable Curiosities both of Art and Nature, are the Subject of every ingenious and inquisitive Person's Admiration : But in a more especial Manner, the Pieces of Painting, performed by several of the most celebrated Masters, those particularly, which this Noble Earl's Grandfather collected in *Italy* with great Skill and Expence : And experienced Travellers have affirm'd they met with nothing either in *Italy* or *France* that exceed them. The Cieling-Painting by *Verio* is inimitably curious : Every Chimney in the House, tho' very numerous, is fronted with Marble of a different Vein ; and the carved Work, about the Chimney-Pieces, which is in Imitation of Fruit and Fowls is equal to Life. Among the several valuable Pieces of Sculpture, the most surprizing of any, is the Statue of *Andromeda* chained to a Rock, with the Sea-Monster ready to devour her ; all of one entire Block of Marble. The Gardens, Canals, Visto's, and the principal Avenues, render it the most desirable, and stateliest Seat in *England*.
The

The Earl of *Exeter*, at a little Distance from this, hath another handsome Seat, with a little Park walled about, called *Wothorpe*: It was built by *Thomas Cecil*, first Earl of *Exeter*; and tho' not very small, (for after the Restoration, it was large enough to hold the Duke of *Buckingham* and his Family for some Years;) yet so mean did it appear in Comparison to the other, that its Founder pleasantly said, *he built it only to retire to out of the Dust, while his great House of Burghley was a sweeping.*

In the Year 1722. Dr. *Coleby*, Dr. *Wilson*, Dr. *Denham*, and Mr. *John Hepburn* Surgeon, at a joint Charge, erected a Cold-Bath, that the Publick might have the Benefit of it at an easy Expence.



CHAP. VIII.

The Ancient and Publick Sports of Stamford.

THE *Ancient and Publick Sports* which are constantly used in this Town, are Two. The one is a Diverſion, fit for the Entertainment of Perſons of any Diſtinction; but the other is Beaſtly, and no way becoming Rational Creatures to partake in. There uſed formerly to be Run for by Horſes, &c. the firſt *Thursday* in *March*, a Silver gilt Cup with a Cover, to the Value of 8 *l.* the *Mayor* then being provided the ſame, out of a Stock formerly raiſed by the Nobility and Gentry, which were in the Neighbourhood. The Time of this Race is now altered to the ~~Wed~~ *Tueſday* in *Whiſon Week*, as well as the Value of the Plate. For this 8 *l.* hath for ſome Years paſt, been made 40 *l.* and called the Town Plate. And the preſent Honourable Counteſs of *Exeter*, to encourage this Meeting, collected this Year a Plate call'd the *Lady's Plate*, value eighty four Pounds; the ſame hath been done ſome preceding Years, by other Perſons of Quality and Faſhion, but not to ſo great a Value. The Town raiſes a *Galloway Plate*, Value 20 *l.* and ſome neighbouring Gentlemen, generally collect the ſame Sum to be run for by *Hunters*. This Year there was a *Cocking* at the time of the *Races* by Subscription among the Neighbouring Gentlemen, which I am informed is made for ſome Time. The preſent Noble Earl of *Exeter*, built the laſt Year a New *Cockpit*, at the *George Inn* in *Stamford-Baron*; being ſo ſpacious it makes it worthy to be taken Notice of here, as it is one of the fineſt in *England*. It is built in an Octigon or Eight Sides, the Out-Side all of Freſtone. It is 40 Foot over,
and

and the Roof in Proportion delicately Ceiled, and Arched round: In each side of the Octagon, there are Two Niches Arch'd for its greater Ornament: It is computed to hold near 500 Persons.

THE Meeting upon these Occasions is very numerous, and now thought to be equal to most in *England*. The Advantages arise from the Situation of the Place, the great store of good Provisions, and Commodiousness of the Inns, which are fit to receive Persons of the best Fashion. And here (were it consistent with my intended Brevity) I might expatiate upon that most inviting Subject, the delicious Situation of this Town: I mean in respect to the fine Champain Country with which *Stamford* is surrounded; and which upon Account of the elegant Hunting, has drawn together, as great a Number of Noblemen and Gentry as is to be met with in any Part of the Pleasurable World.

WITHIN the Sound of our Bells, liv'd heretofore the Royal Patroness of this Manly Diversion; I mean the famous St. * *Tibba*, who might possibly give the Name of *Huntingdon* called by *Leland*, *Venantodunum*; (i. e.) *Huntingdown* to one of our Neighbouring Counties: She was Buried at *Rbi*all in *Rutlandshire*, but Two short Miles from *Stamford*; where formerly, *Cambden* says she was Worshipped as another *Diana*. I hope it will not be thought too Ludicrous for my present Undertaking, if in this Place I observe, that it is not improbable, that the Antiquated Notes for the Hunting-Horn, were intended at first in Honour of this reputed Saint. For St. *Tibba* or *Tirva*, easily degenerate into *Tan Tirvy*, and in Process of Time, into the Modern *Ton-Tavern*: An Instance that something resembles this, we have in the Corruption that has been made of St. *Anthony* into *Tantony*, and St. *Olave* into *Tooly*.

* She was of
kingly Extra-
ction, and liv'd
at Godmanche-
ster Anno 696.

This

This Conjecture I must confess (in the Words of *Horace*) is *ad hunc indictum ore alio*; but it may serve to amuse at least, if not instruct the Reader.

THE Second Sport, tho' more Ancient than the former, yet is so cruel and barbarous, that it is Matter of Astonishment how it comes to be continued. It is the Publick and great *Bull-running*. This is the Day, Six Weeks before *Christmas Day*, when the *Butchers* of the Town provide the *Bull*: The Morning which he is to be let out, about Ten a Clock, the *Bellman* gives Notice all over the Town, that every one shut up their Doors and Gates, for the *Bull* (or as a great *Antiquarian* calls him *Roger Twangdillo*) is a going to be let out, and that none upon pain of Imprisonment, do Violence to Strangers, or throw Dirt upon the Houses, for the preventing whereof, the *Mayor* orders out all his Constables. Proclamation thus made, and all the Gates shut, the *Bull* is turn'd out, where Tag and Rag run after him with Clubs, bespattering Dirt in each others Faces, and he is esteem'd the most compleat Bullard, that can make himself the most dirty: I shall say no more of it, than to set forth its Antiquity, those who want a more particular Information, may (for the Price of One Penny) at Mr. *Thompson's* Printer in *Stamford* have the compleat History of it Published by a Learned Antiquary, who is now writing the History of his *Native Place*.

WILLIAM Earl *Warren* in the Time of King *John*, standing upon his Castle Walls, viewing the fair Prospect of the River, and Meadows, saw Two Bulls Fighting for a Cow; a *Butcher* of the Town, Owner of one of these Bulls, accidentally coming by with a Dog, set him upon his Bull, who was forced into the Town; he being made Mad with Noise, and other Dogs pursuing of him, to escape the Dogs, bore down

down all that opposed him; which occasioned such a Tumult, that most of the Town was in Pursuit of him; the Noise reached Earl *Warren* who was still in his Castle, and immediately mounted his Horse and rode into the Town, to see the Diversion, which then gave him so much Pleasure, that he gave all the Meadows in which the two Bulls were at first found Fighting, (which are now call'd the *Castle Meadows*) perpetually as a Common to the Butchers of the Town, after the first Grass is eaten; upon this Condition, that, as upon that Day, on which this Sport first began, (which was the Day Six Weeks before *Christmas*) they should Yearly for ever, find a Mad Bull for the continuance of that Sport.



CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

The Names and pious Deeds of such as have been Benefactors to STAMFORD, either to the Corporation in general, or to particular Parishes in the same, with the several Uses to which those Deeds are appropriated.

WILLIAM Earl Warren in the Time of King John, gave and granted to this Town, one Place of Burial, containing Five Acres without the *East Gate* of *Stamford*, to Bury the Bodies of excommunicated Persons, and to build there a Chappel, and House for Poor Brethren.

UPON the Incorporating of this Town, our Sovereign Lord King *Edward IV.* gave the Lands of *Gowen Southerope*, which were confiscated to the Crown; to the *Alderman* and *Burgeses* of *Stamford* for ever.

KING *Edward VI.* gave the Lands, and Tenements, formerly belonging to the dissolved *Gild*, or Fraternity of *Corpus Christi* in *Stamford* to the *Alderman* and *Burgeses*, and their Successors for ever, which are worth to the Town 170 *l. per Annum*; being the greatest and chiefeſt Revenue the Town hath in Lands at this Time.

WILLIAM Ratcliffe Esquire, having been *Alderman* of *Stamford* four times; in 1530, gave all his Messuages, Lands and Tenements in *Stamford*, for the perpetual Maintenance of a Free Grammar School; which Land for the present is let out upon Lease, and the received Rent is about 60 *l.*

a Year. So that the clear Yearly Allowance to the Master is 40 l. and to the Usher 20 l. pay'd quarterly in Money; the Master hath a * House to dwell in, which ^{*School-House} hath lately been rebuilt by Subscriptions, from some neighbouring Gentlemen, and the Corporation Stock; the same is now made Magnificent as well as Convenient, and fit to receive Gentlemen's Sons of any Distinction: This House was built in Complement to the Reverend Mr. *Hannes* the present Master, of whose Merits the Corporation hath the greatest Opinion.

IN the Year 1561. Mrs. *Jane Cecil*, Widow, lead- ed and paved the *Friday* † Market-Cross in *Stamford*, ^{†Market-Cross} at her own Cost; and likewise in the Year 1588, by her last Will and Testament, gave 50 l. to be lent out for ever without Interest, to Poor Tradesmen and Artificers, in *Stamford* and *Stamford-Baron*, to be disposed of by certain Feoffees nominated in her Will.

IN the Year 1570. The North End of the § Town ^{§Town-Bridge} Bridge in *Stamford* being born down by the violence of a great Flood, the same was re-built at the Charge of *William Cecil* then Lord *Burghley*, the Toll of which End &c. belonged unto him.

FRANCIS Trigg Clerk, in 1588, gave Four Pounds per Annum for ever, to buy Barley to make Bread for the Poor of *Stamford*, the same is distributed the First and Second Monday in Lent, by the Mayor and Warden of *Brown's Hospital* for the Time being; the Money aforesaid, is paid out of that House which is at this time call'd the *Nag's-Head*.

GEORGE Trigg Gentleman, in 1585, gave Four Hundred Pounds; to be lent out for ever; upon good Security, to Poor Artificers that are Tradesmen, without Interest.

IN the Year 1604. *Richard Snowden* Clerk, and Minister of *St. John's* in *Stamford*, by his last Will gave

gave certain Lands and Tenements for ever, after the Death of his Wife, for seven Poor Widows of the Age of sixty Years and upwards; the Profits whereof afford each Widow seven Pence a Week, and a House to dwell in, and the Alderman of Stamford, for the time being, hath a Power to place them as any Vacancy happens.

JANE Kisby late of Stamford Widow, the same Year, gave by Will 8 l. for ever, to be put to Interest, and the Profits thereof to be for the Use of the Poor of Stamford.

SIR Robert Wingfield, late of Upton in the County of Northampton, being one of the Com-Burgesses in Stamford, and likewise the Town's Representative in Parliament; in the same Year obtained of King James, the Pardon and Remittance of Two Fifteens, for Stamford and Stamford-Baron, amounting to the Sum of 84 l. 8 s. 4 d.

THE same Sir Robert Wingfield, in 1604, obtained Pardon and Remittance of the said King James, for Stamford and Stamford-Baron, of Six entire Fifteens, amounting to the Sum of 254 l. 6 s.

IN the Year 1609, the Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Exeter, gave a perpetual Annuity of 41 l. 1 s. 8 d. per Annum, issuing out of certain Lands in Lincolnshire, for the putting Poor Children Apprentices, such as should be Born in the Town of Stamford; and toward other Charitable Uses. Besides the Town did often receive from him, in his Life Time, many particular Favours.

HUGH Allington, late of Tinwell in the County of Rutland, Esq; by his last Will, gave Forty Pounds for ever, to be lent to the Poor Artificers in Stamford, and Stamford-Baron, without Interest, by certain Proffers named in his said Will.

ROGER

ROGER Mannors of *Uffington* in the County of *Lincoln*, Esq; by his last Will, gave to the Poor of *Stamford* Twenty Pounds for ever, to be put to Interest, the Profit whereof, to be laid out in Coals yearly amongst the said Poor, as the *Alderman* for the time being shall think fit.

THE Reverend Robert Johnson of *Northluffenham* in the County of *Rutland*, late Arch-Deacon of *Leicester*, among many other his Pious Benefactions to *Stamford*, whilst he lived, gave a large Bible to pass from *Alderman* to *Alderman*, to be laid before him, at such Times when he goes to Church.

ANTHONY Acham Gentleman, by his last Will gave 5 l. a Year for ever, to the Use of the Poor in *Stamford*.

MR. Edward Wells, gave a House valued at three Pounds 10 s. a Year, and three Acres of Land, to be paid to a petty School-Master in *Stamford*, to teach poor Free-men's Children, to read *English*.

IN the Year 1638, William Bervil late of *Chester-ton* in the County of *Huntingdon*, Esq; by his last Will, gave to the Use of the Poor of *Stamford* Eighty Pounds, the Interest whereof to be distributed amongst the said Poor, at the Discretion of the *Alderman* for the time being.

IN the Year 1647. David Earl of *Exeter*, and Elizabeth his Countess, gave each of them 50 Pounds for ever, the Interest of which, is to buy Bread, for the Poor of *Stamford*, and *Stamford-Baron*.

HENRY Rastal Gentleman, late of *Stamford*, by his last Will in 1651, gave to the Use of the Poor of *Stamford* Twenty Pounds, the Interest whereof to be distributed as the *Alderman* for the time being shall think fit.

IN the Year 1655. John Weaver Esq; one of the *Com-Burgessees* of *Stamford*, and one of its *Burgessees* in *Parliament*,

Parliament, gave 100 l. for ever to be lent out *gratis*, to twenty Poor Tradesmen, Artificers, and Freemen of this Corporation. *viz.* to Ten of them 6. l. 13. s. 4. d. and to other Ten, 3. l. 6. s. 8. d. each; and he also gave 12 Bibles, to be kept at St. Mary's Church in *Stamford*, to be disposed of by the Clark of the said Parish, to such Strangers as shall come to the Lecture there: Also he gave a fair Cushion to be laid before the *Alderman* in his Seat at Church.

IN 1646. Mr. *Weaver* procured 140. l. to be distributed, to St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. George's, and St. John's Churches.

SIR *Christopher Clapham*, a Person of a very high and ancient Extraction, a Freeman and Inhabitant of this Town, when he was made Free, in the Year 1658, gave a large Silver Cup, to pass from *Alderman* to *Alderman*. The Arms of the Town insculped on the one Side, and on the Other, his own paternal Arms, *viz.* Argent a Bend Azure, charged with six Flower-de-luces. Or. 2. 2. and 2. The said Cup is in Weight 35 Ounces.

HENRY *Noel* Esq; gave a handsome Fire-Engine, for the Use of the Corporation.

LADY *Jane Throld*, gave a Close adjoining to *Stamford-Baron*, the yearly Income of which, to be distributed, half to the Poor of *Stamford*, and the other half to *Stamford-Baron*.

EDWARD *Curtis Alderman*, in the Year 1693, gave by Will, twenty Pounds for ever, the Interest of which, was to buy Coals for the Use of the Poor of *Stamford*.

MRS. *Sarah King*, gave likewise Ten Pounds for the same Use.

RICHARD *Warwick Alderman*, gave by Will 30 l. to the Corporation for ever, the Interest of which to be

be distributed Weekly in Bread to the Poor of Stamford.

CHARLES Bertie Senior Esq; amongst several Benefactions to this Corporation, gave a large Silver Mace, gilt, no way inferior to the Lord Chancellor's, and a Silver Punch Bowl, with a Cover to it handsomely gilt; the same holding 5 Gallons. It hath the following Inscription upon it,

Carolus Bertie frater Roberti filius Montacuti nepos Comitum de Lindsey hereditario jure magnorum Angliæ Camerariorum qui binis vicibus pro hoc Burgo de Stamford ad suprema regni comitia deputatus est An. Dom. 1678. et 1685. Quibus utrisque annis Daniel Wigmore Prætor hujus Burgi fuit.

Poculum hoc in quo Cives Stamfordienses tum suam erga serenissimos Magnæ Britanniæ Reges fidem tum Bertianæ Domus erga illos amicitiam commemorant eidem Dan. Wigmore nunc Prætori ejusque in perpetuum successoribus gratus ac libens donat dicatque An. Dom. 1685.

The Mace hath the following Inscription upon it.

Ex dono Nobilissimi Viri Caroli Bertie Filii Montacuti Comitum de Lindsey qui antiquo huic Burgo de Stamford (cujus Suffragio in Comitibus Regni Locum jam obtinet ejusdem Burgi nomine) Signum hoc Prætoris Dignitatis veluti pignus amoris sui perpetuo gestandum dedit. Anno Præturæ Danielis Wigmore & Humane Salutis

MDC LXXVIII.

THIS Gentleman was endow'd with extraordinary Parts, and very early qualify'd himself for the Service of his Country, by his Travels into France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Holland, Flanders, Denmark, Sweden and Poland. He first signaliz'd his Valour, by his Attendance on George Duke of Albermarl, General to King Charles II. in the two great Battles fought against the Dutch at Sea, in the Year 1666. and was afterwards

afterwards preferr'd to be one of the Captains in his Majesty's Regiment of Guards, whence his Majesty was pleas'd to command him his Envoy extraordinary to *Christian the 5th, King of Denmark*, to adjust the Difference about the Flag in the Year 1671; in which Negotiation having succeeded to his Majesty's great Satisfaction, he return'd Home; and in 1672 waited on his Royal Highness the Duke of York to Sea; and was personally with him, in that Engagement of *Sol-Bay*. In 1673 he was advanced to be Secretary of the *Treasury*, under the Right Honourable *Thomas Earl of Danby*; then *Lord High Treasurer of England*; and in the Year 1680 was again honour'd with the Appointment of his Majesty's Envoy extraordinary, to several *Electors*, and other *Princes of Germany*. And last of all in the Year 1681, was made *Treasurer*, and *Pay-Master* of his Majesty's Office of *Ordnance*; in which he serv'd near 20 Years, tho' under three several Reigns: And serv'd 30 Years in Parliament, as *Burgeſs of Stamford*; wherein he acquitted himself with unspotted Reputation. He had such an universal Genius, that, when he went to sollicite a Favour, he could easily enter into the Foible of every Man's Nature: And so indefatigable was he at all Times, in the Service of his Friends, that he never ceased his Importunities, till he had either gained his Point, or left no Hopes of Success. He was a true *Patriot* of his Country, and valued it's Interest so much, that notwithstanding he tast'd largely of his Prince's Favours, he freely quitted them all, rather than consent to the least Thing, he thought might be a Disservice to it; and therefore, he undoubtedly was the properest Person, to represent so uncorrupted a Corporation. His Behaviour was easy, and genteel; and he was so well beloved, that he us'd commonly to be called *Honest Charles Bertie*; And well did he deserve so particular

particular a Character; for when some had a Design to lessen the great Esteem, his Country had for him, the great Council of the Nation honourably acquitted him. But I shall say no more of this great Man, than, that he was Grandson to the valiant Earl of *Lindsey*, that so bravely lost his Life in the Battle of *Edge-Hill*; in the just Defence, of his King and Country.

IN the Year 1702 *William Chamberlin* a Capital Burgess of *Stamford*; gave by Will twenty Pounds, the Interest of which to be distributed yearly, amongst such Poor, as shall live in that House called the *Callis*.

IN the Year 1704. Mrs. *Stephenson* gave a large Bible to the Corporation, to go from Mayor to Mayor to be laid upon the Cushion before him when he is at Church.

MR. *John Palmer Alderman*, by his Will dated December 20. 1707, gave 30 l. to be put out, the Interest of which, to be given yearly to the Poor of the aforesaid *Callis*.

CAPTAIN *John Wyldbore* by Will gave 10 l. to the Poor of *Stamford*, to be disposed of, as his Executrix should think fit, who paid the same into the Hands of the Corporation, and directed the Interest thereof, to be for the Use of the said *Callis* for ever.

* *WILLIAM Hickham* Alderman of *Stamford*, in the Year 1457, at his own cost, built the Gilded Quire on the North Side of the Chancel of this Church.

† *RICHARD Banister* Gentleman, erected (at his own Charge) in the South Quire a Library, and gave some Books to the same; and at his Death gave ten Pounds, the Interest of which, was yearly to be laid out in such Books, as the Minister of the Parish, should judge most useful. This Library hath lately been repaired,

* St. Mary's.

† The Library.

repaired, and made exceeding neat, at the Expence of *Joshua Blackwell Esq*; who hath served this Corporation twice as *Mayor*, with great Wisdom and Reputation, and distinguished himself by many worthy Actions. There is now a Subscription among some Gentlemen, in the Town and Country; annually to lay out a Sum of Money in such Books as are valuable; when, after every Subscriber hath read the said Books, they are deposited in the Library for the Use of the Publick. This is a Benefaction every way worthy those Gentlemen who are so generously disposed: They meet the First Thursday in every Month, to consider what are the most useful Books to purchase; and the present Noble Earl of *Exeter*, July 7. 1726. gave as an Encouragement to this Design 15^l. 15 s.

MR. *John Bullock* of this Parish, was a great Benefactor to the same, in employing the Poor in knitting of Jersey.

MR. *John West* Citizen and Butcher of *London*, born in this Parish, gave four Pounds to the said Parish, the Interest of which, is yearly to be given to the Poor of the same.

ROBERT *Bullock* of *London* Chirurgeon, gave three Pounds, to be added to the four his Uncle *John West* gave for the Use of the Poor; the Interest to buy Bread, the Sabbath before and after Christmas Day for ever; to be distributed in the Church, to the Poor, by the Officers of the said Parish.

JOHN *Bullock* of *London* Butcher gave 3 ^l. to make the former up ten, and to be disposed of according to the former Grants.

THE aforesaid Robert *Bullock*, by a Deed dated July 24. 1655. gave to this Parish the Sum of 50 ^l. for ever; to the End, that the Poor of this Parish should have out of the Profits of the 50 ^l. the Value

lut of 2 s. 6 d. weekly, during the Space of 24 Weeks every Year; the said 24 Weeks, to begin the first Saturday after the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and thence to continue for 24 Weeks following, as aforesaid, this is to be laid out in Bread, and distributed at the Discretion of the Officers of this Parish.

EDWARD Robinson Citizen, and White-Baker of London gave 11 l. 6 s. and 8 d. yearly to this Parish, during the Terms of certain Years, in a Lease he had at the Time of his Death, of the Inn called the *White-Horse* in *Fetter-Lane* London; Part of which Money, is to buy Books for the aforesaid Library, and the rest for the Repairing of the Church.

JOHN Leise one of the Com-Burgessees of Stamford, and late Inhabitant of this Parish, gave 20 l. the Interest whereof to be for the Repairs of this Church.

MR. Greene who lived in this Parish, gave very liberally towards building a very fair Pulpit in this Church, and towards a rich Velvet Pulpit-Cloth for the same.

MR. Marshall Citizen and White-Baker of London, gave 3 l. and Mr. Thomas Harrison Citizen and Vintner of London, gave 2 l.

THERE is Six Shillings and Six Pence a Year paid to this Church for the Repairing of the same, being the Rent of a Shop in *Stamford-Baron*, but who gave the same is no where specified.

IN the Year 1725 Mrs. Wills of Exon, in the County of Rutland, gave 200 l. to this Church, to procure the like Sum (as Augmentation to it) from the Bounty of Queen Anne.

* MR. Marshall Citizen and White-Baker of London, * All-Saints, gave ten Pounds to this Parish; the Interest of which Sum, to be for the Use of the Poor of the same: He also gave twenty Marks a Year for a weekly Lecture

in this Church, which, tho' once the said Lecture ceased, is now, and has constantly for some Years been maintained.

MR. *John Denham* gave five Pounds to this Parish, the Interest whereof, yearly to be for the Use of the Poor of the same.

MR. *Robert Warner* gave five Pounds for the like Use

MRS. *Winifred Browne*, the Wife and Executrix of *John Browne*, late of this Parish Esq; gave ten Pounds for the Use of the Poor.

WILLIAM *Fisher* late of *Bourn*, in the County of *Lincoln* Gentleman, gave six Pence a Week for ever, to be laid out in Bread for the Use of the Poor of this Parish.

WILLIAM *Browne*, Merchant of the Staple, above 250 Years since, at his own proper Cost, built the Steeple belonging to this Church; being a very curious and excellent Fabrick; he likewise built a great Part of the Church it self.

THE Lady *Buck*, gave the Sum of 60*l.* the Interest of which is yearly to be distributed to the Poor of *All-Saints*, *St. John's*, and *St. Martin's*.

* *St. George's*.

* MRS. *Jane Cecil* Widow; (Mother to *William Lord Burghley*) gave fifteen Pounds for ever; the Use of which to be given to the Poor of this Parish.

JOHN *Chirme* late of *Stamford-Baron*, Gentleman, gave twenty Shillings a Year, to be paid quarterly, to the Poor of this Parish.

WILLIAM *Carve* Esq; who liv'd at the *Black-Fryers*, gave forty Shillings a Year, to provide Bread and Wine, for a Sacrament to be administred upon the first Lord's Day of every Month in the Year. He likewise gave twelve Pence a Week for ever, to be distributed to the Poor in Bread.

1671.

1671. The aforefaid *William Fisher* gave to this Parifh 12 d. a Week for ever, to be laid out in Bread and given to the Poor of the fame.

THERE is belonging to this Parifh feven Pounds a Year, being the Rent of divers Tenements in the fame, but who gave it to this Church, is no where mentioned.

SIR *Richard Cuff*, Grandfather to the prefent Sir *Richard*, gave 40 s. a Year for ever to the Poor of this Parifh ; the Houfe now called the *Fryers*, is affigned for the Payment of the fame.

MR. *Brocklesby*, by his laft Will gave 50 l. to this Parifh for ever ; the Intereft of which Money is yearly to be diftributed among the Poor of the faid Parifh.

THERE WAS a Tenement given to the Minifter of this * Parifh, and his Succelfors for ever, by Mr. * St. John's. *George Trigge* ; upon Condition that the faid Minifter, and his Succelfors, fhould yearly diftribute to the Poor of this Parifh the Sum of 27 s.

DR. *Peter Fulwood* gave by Will in 1642. ten Shillings yearly to the Poor of this † Parifh ; and affigned a certain Parcel of Land, containing 11 Acres in *Stamford Field*, purchafed of *Thomas Jackson*, for the Payment of the fame : Here have been given for the Service of this Church, two large Silver Flag-gons, and this Year two large Silver Plates, and two fmall ones ; but who are the pious Benefactors, is no otherways guefs'd at, than by the Arms upon the Plate, which are thofe of the ancient Family of the *Trollopes* ; to which worthy Family the Corporation ftands largely indebted, for many other Inftances of their Piety and Charity.

§ THE Lady *Dorothy Cecil*, one of the Daughters, and Co-heirs of the Lord *Latimore*, and Wife to *Thomas Earl of Exeter*, did in her Life-time purchafe and

settle 74 Acres of Arable Land, Leas and Pasture, in *Miningsby, Hareby, Enderby, Kirkby, and Claxby* in the County of *Lincoln*; with a House built upon the said Ground: Also one Close of Pasture called *Sheffield's Close*, containing by Estimation 14 Acres, lying in *Sutton-Marshes*, in the County aforesaid: the Rents and Profits of which to be employed to the following Uses, *viz.* For the placing poor Boys and Girls Apprentices; for two proper Persons to teach poor Children to read *English*, and knit; and for such other Allowances to the Poor of the said Parish, as the Trustees shall think fit; which Trustees are always to be nominated by the Earls of *Exeter*.

THE Right Honourable *David* Earl of *Exeter* gave 50 l. and the Right Honourable *Elizabeth*, Dowager of the said Earl, added 50 l. more; both which Sums were deposited, in the Hands of the *Alderman* of *Stamford*. The Use of which was to provide Bread to be distributed monthly to the Poor of *Stamford*, and *Stamford-Baron*.

MRS. *Jane Cecil*, by Will gave 50 l. for ever, to be let out to poor Tradesmen in *Stamford*, and *Stamford-Baron* without Interest.

HUGH *Allington* Esq; of *Tintwell* in the County of *Kutland*, gave by Will 40 l. to poor Artificers in *Stamford* and *Stamford-Baron*; which Money was paid into the Hands of the *Alderman* of *Stamford*.

JANE *Sallet* Spinster of *Huntingdon*, gave a Rent Charge of eleven Shillings and eight Pence for ever, to be issued out of her late Dwelling; to be paid to the Church Wardens of this Parish, upon Monday in *Easter Week*, *viz.* Six Shillings and eight Pence, (Part thereof) for one Sermon to be preached on the said Monday in this Parish Church; and five Shillings the Remainder of the aforesaid Sum, to be distributed to 15 poor Persons of this Parish, 4 d. each.

CATHERINE

CATHERINE Gregory of Easton, in the County of Northampton Spinster, by her last Will gave 3 l. the Interest of which is to be laid out in Bread, to be distributed among the Poor every Good-Friday.

THOMAS Kettleborough, of this Parish Gentleman, settled in his Life-time, 3 Acres of Arable Land lying in the high Fields of Stamford-Baron; the Rents of which to be laid out in Bread for the Poor, and distributed every St. Thomas's Day.

MARGARET, Relict of John Johnson; gave 20 s. the Interest of which to provide six two Penny Loaves, to be given to six poor Widows of the said Parish, upon New-Years-Day, yearly for ever: It being the Day of the Donor's Birth.

JEREMIAH Latwford gave 40 s. the Interest of which yearly to be distributed among the Poor.

MRS Margaret Lamb by her Will gave two Silver Plates; and 5 l. to buy more for the Use of the Communion Service.

THE Right Honourable Elizabeth Countess Dowager of Exeter, by her Will gave 60 l. the Interest of which to be yearly distributed among the Poor of this Parish.

MRS. Mary Walburge, 1725, gave two Silver Flaggons, and 10 l. to buy more Plate, for the Use of the Communion Service.

CHAP. X.

*Such ancient and modern Monuments as
are to be seen, in and about Stamford,
or Stamford-Baron.*

*Roman-Way.

† P. 463.

§ Gausfenne.

THERE is an ancient *Dike, appears in divers Places, between *Stamford* and *Lincoln* ; great Part of which is ruined by Time : Yet on the North-Side of the Town there are great Remains of this *Roman-Way*, which was formerly call'd the *High-Dike*. † *Cambden* says, this Dike was the *Roman High-Way* out of this Town into the North ; which clearly shews that there was a Ferry here ; yet this does not prove, that this was that § *Gausfenne* which *Antoninus* places at some small Distance from hence. But since the little Village called *Brigcasterton* (which by its very Name appears to be ancient) is situated but a Mile off, where the River *Gwash* or *Wash* crosses the High-Way ; the Nearness of the Name *Gwash* to *Gausfenne*, and the Distance not being inconsistent, makes me apt to believe, till Time shall bring the Truth to Light, that *Gausfenne* is at present called *Brigcasterton*. If I should think *Stamford* sprang from the Ruins of this Town, and that this Part of the County is called *Kesteven* from *Gausfenne* ; as the other Part is named *Lindsey* from the City *Lindum* ; I would have the Reader take it as a bare Opinion, and pass what Judgment he thinks fit. 'Tis the current Belief, that this *Gausfenne* was demolished ; as *Henry Arch-Deacon* of *Huntingdon* relates, when the *Picts* and *Scots* ravag'd this whole County as far as *Stamford* ; where

where our *Hengist*, and his *Saxons*, with great Gallantry stopt their Progress, and forc'd them to fly in the utmost Disorder.

ON the South West Side of this Town, the *Roman-Way* crosses the River *Weland*; thro' a stony Ford at the Bottom of a Place, which as I said before, was called the *Nun's-Lane*; from whence it goes by *Burghley-Park-Wall* beneath *Barnack*, which is at this Time called the *Forty-Foot-Way*, from its Breadth, and is still to be seen. It went to * *Durobrivæ*, a very ancient City, cal-
 * *Durobrivæ*.
 led in *Saxon* *Dormancester*; from thence to *Stilton*, formerly *Stichilton*, where it again appears. This in *Cambden's* Judgment is *Antoninus's Durobrivæ*, which he interprets *Fluminis trajectus*.

ON the North Side of the Town, near the Road, about 12 Score Yards from *Clement-gate*; stood formerly a † Cross of Freestone of curious
 † *Queen Eleanor's Cross*.
 Workmanship; it had many Arms upon it, as those of *England*, *Castile*, *Leon*, and *Poictou*. This is now quite demolished. Yet about the Year 1646, if we may give Credit to Mr. *Butcher* (who Mr. *Peck* calls a *sorry Writer*; tho' he has often quoted him, and I dare say, will quote him again) some Remains appeared. This Cross was called the *Queens-Cross*, and was erected by King *Edward* the first, about 1293, in Memory of *Eleanor* Daughter to *Ferdinand* the third, King of *Castile*; who was the beloved Wife of the said King. She died at *Hareby* near *Bullingbroke* in *Lincolnshire*; in the Year 1291. In her Journey to *Westminster*, where ever her Hearse rested, the King erected one of these magnificent Crosses, as a Monument of his great Love. We have from Tradition, that the King was wounded, (in the Wars Abroad) with an invenom'd Arrow,
 and

and his Wound by all being judg'd mortal; this Queen did then, with her own Mouth suck out the Poyson; so that his Majesty recovered: Whether any Credit is to be given to this as the Cause of these Crosses being erected, the Reader must determine with himself: However, as she was a religious and virtuous Lady, there was great Monour due to her Memory.

* St. Mary's.

AT the upper End of the middle Quire of this * Church, there stands a Monument, very curious in its Workmanship. It has but little whereby we can judge to whose Memory it was erected; tho' it plainly appears to have been for some great Person, and his Lady: He lyeth in Armour Cap-a-pe, at his Feet there is a Lyon couchant, and round the Tomb are Roses, (the Colour not distinguished) supported by a Greyhound; and a Dragon: The Port-Cullis and Hatchment, belong to the House of *Somerset*, which was a Branch of the Royal Blood; so that there is Reason to believe, it was erected in Memory of one of the House of *Lancaster*.

AT the upper End of the same Quire, in the Glass Window; did stand (but are now defaced) three Escutcheons of Arms; the first Gules a Fess, between six cross Crosses, Or; being the Coat Armour of *Beauchamp*, sometime Earl of *Warwick*. Likewise another Coat, viz. Argent a Fess, between 3 Crescents Gules; which is the Coat of *Ogle* of *Pinchbeck* in the County of *Lincoln*; from which Family, the Baron *Ogles* of the North are descended. The third is Azure a Cross fitch'd between 2 Eagles Wings, Or. In the middle Window on the South Side of the Church, there was likewise, the Coat Armour of *Sbelton* of *Norfolk*; viz. a Cross, Or; the Field Azure.

ON

ON the North Side of the Golden Quire, in the Wall of the same, there is a Monument lying in Armour Cap-a-pe, but as it has neither Escutcheon nor Inscription upon it, we can give no other Account to whom it may belong, than what the painted Glass that was in the Window, near to the same, may inform us: The Surcoat is a Chevron ingraill'd, between 3 Lyons Paws coup'd, and erected, Argent, arm'd Gules; which Coat belongs to the Name of *Usher*, so that it is probable it was for one of that Family.

IN the Middle of the Floor of the said Golden Quire, lies buried under a fair Stone of blue Marble, plated very curiously with Brass Work, *William Hickham*, sometimes *Alderman* of *Stamford*, the Portraiture both of himself and his Wife in Brass, did sometime since lye fixed upon the said Stone, but is now removed.

AT the upper End of the aforesaid Quire, there hangs upon the Wall a Table of Arms, dedicated to the Memory of *Frances* the Wife of *Robert Snow* Gentleman, second Daughter of *Sir John Burrel* of *Dowsby*, in the County of *Lincoln*, who departed this Life, *July 31 1654*, the Arms above this Superscription are, Argent, a Fess Gules between 3 Balls vert charged with a Cinquefoile Argent between two Martlets, Or, by the Name of *Snow*, impaled to Argent a Salteir Gules, between 4 Bur Leaves slipped proper, upon a chief Azure a Lyons Head erased, langued, Gules, between 2 Picke-Axes, Or, by the Name of *Burrel*.

IN the Library of the said Church, lyes intomb'd; *Mary*, one of the Daughters of *John Rogers* Gentleman, and Wife of *Joshua Blackwell* Esq; who in Respect to her Memory, and to shew the true Affection he had for her, erected against the Wall a

L

handsome

handsome Marble Monument : On the Top of which is fix'd their Arms. A Lyon rampant, Or, in Part of the Field Gules, 6 upright Bars Azure and Argent, the Border Argent with 6 Ermin ; three Bucks Sables horn'd, Or, a Chevron Sables, the Field Argent, the Crest a Swan's Head, Or, about the Neck a Coronet Azure.

THIS Church as well as the rest of the Churches in *Stamford* hath within these 14 Years, been greatly beautified ; and made exceeding neat, at the Charge of each Parish by proper Assessments.

* *St. George's* IN the upper Window of the Quire of *St. George's* Church are portrayed kneeling, as in *St. George's* Chapel at *Windsor*, before the Image of that Saint ; *Edward* the third's *Queen*, the Prince of *Wales*, and *Henry* Duke of *Lancaster*, all in their Robes of the Order of the Garter ; and in the Windows on each Side the said Quire are portrayed, according to the first Institution, the first Knights of that Order, that were made kneeling in their Garter Robes upon their Surcoats of Arms, which said Order was founded by *Edward* III. The Names of the first Knights are here set down in Order.

Edward III.	Bartholomew Burwaffh.
Edward Prince of Wales.	John de Mohun.
Henry Duke of Lancaster.	Hugh de Courtney.
Thomas Earl of Warwick.	Thomas Holland.
Captain de Bouche.	John Grey.
Ralph Earl of Stafford.	Richard Fitz-Symon.
William de Montecute,	Miles Stapleton.
Earl of Salisbury.	Thomas Walle.
Roger de Mortimer, Earl	Hugh Wriothsley.
of March.	Nigellus Loring.
John de Lisle.	John Chandois.
John de Beauchamp.	James Audley.

Otho

Otho Holland.
Henry Eme.

Zacheus Dawbriggcourt.
William Paganell.

IN the Windows of the said Church there appears, in sundry Places, the Coat Armour of divers ancient and noble Families; viz. The Coat of Earl *Warren*, the ancient Lord and Owner of *Stamford*, Chekie Or, Azure.

THE Coat of *Baldwin* Lord *Wake*, Or, three Tortoises in Chief, a Fels Gules.

LIKEWISE the Arms of *Sapcote*, who bears *Sable* a Pidgeon Coat erected Argent.

IN the lower Window towards the South, is the Arms of *La Grosse*, being, Or, a Chevron betwixt two Roses Gules.

IN another Window on the same Side, is the Coat Armour of, *Moleneux* of *Haughton*, in the County of *Nottingham*, who bears Azure, a Cross Molyne Quarter pierced Argent which several Monuments of Arms were here placed, either in regard the Bearers of them were Benefactors to this Church, or had Lands and Possessions in the same Parish.

IN the East Window there is painted in Glafs, OUR SAVIOUR blessing the Elements: This was done, by Mr. *John Langton*, late Writing-Master of this Place, who was a very great Master in his Way, as his Books, which are in the Hands of his Widow, sufficiently testifie.

* THERE are in this Church very few Monu- * All-Saints.
ments either in Stone or Glafs. The Arms of the Town were fix'd in the lowest Window West of the North Side of the Church, and on the South of the same Window, are the Arms of the Merchants of the Staple, viz, Wavy of 6 Bars, Argent, and Sable a chief Azure, charged with a Lyon passant Argent: These Arms being placed here gives Reason to be-

lieve, that *John Browne* who was so great a Benefactor to this Town, was likewise so to this Church. He and his Wife lye interred in the Chancel on the North Side of the Church.

IN the Chancel, on the South Side is erected a handsome Marble Monument, in Memory of *Mr. Thomas Truesdale*, with the following Inscription on it.

“ SUB hoc Marmore positæ sunt Reliquiæ Thomæ Truesdale de Stamford Generosi, plurimis notis, omnibus chari, suis charissimi. In Legum Anglicanarum Ufu, et Curiarum Praxi, apprime versatus, et Peritia sua, honeste alios, æque ac se ditavit. Egenis adhuc superstes, sæpe dedit. Cum moriebatur, semper.

“ IN Vico vicino Anglice Scotgate, Hospitum statuit propriam Domum sex pauperibus perpetuo, eandemque Domum in Agro Lincolnensi, ad Bafton, et Morton, cum Fundis dotavit. Fama ejus oculo velut Arbor ævo cressit, cressetque Dignum Laude Virum Charitas (Musa melior) vetat mori.

“ Si Gravitas, si Sobrietas, si mentis honestas

“ Pulchrum homini nomen præbeat, ipse tulit.

Obiit 23 Octobris, Anno 1700.

HIS Arms are handsomely painted on this Monument, and on the left Hand of it, there is one erected in Memory of *Elizabeth* his Wife, who was Daughter to *John Tooly* of *Boston* Gentleman.

THE Font in this Church is a great Curiosity, being all of Marble handsomely insculp'd.

THE Grave-Stones which are here, have escaped the Hands of the Sacrilegious Plunderers, most of which, have the Brass Plates upon them, as fair as when at first laid down.

* THIS

* THIS Church is very elegantly built both with-^{* St. John's} out and within: The Skreen which parts the Quire from the Body of the Church, is very curious in its Workmanship; and the painted Glass in the Windows is no way inferior to the other Churches. The Roof is lofty and neatly finished; and it is a Misfortune, (since this Church is so capable of being made exceeding beautiful) that the proper Additions, should be too great an Expence for the Parishioners to bear. Here are no Monuments that are curious: At the East End are placed *Moses* and *Aaron*, the Commandments, and the Institution; these were painted, and given by *Michael Collins* in the Year 1714.

IN this † Church there are no Paintings in Glass,^{† St. Michael's} nor any Monuments worthy a curious Inquirer's Notice; except that on the North Side of the Communion-Table, which is in Memory of *Dr. Charles Wilson*: The Grave-Stone hath the following Inscription on it.

M. S.

Anna Wilson Matris et Caroli Wilson, Filii M. D. apprimè Celebris; Qui obiit. Prid. Non. Aprilis, Æræ Christianæ

Anno 1723, Ætatis sue 49.

HE was a Man universally beloved, and a Gentleman in his Profession. This Church is now made as neat and convenient, as the Place will admit of; for within these few Years some Hundreds of Pounds have been expended in repairing and beautifying the same.

§ IN The upper End of the North Quire against^{§ St. Martin's Stamford-Baron.} the Wall, is placed a fair Monument, In happy Memory of *Richard Cecil*, and *Jayne his Wife*, and three Daughters. This is somewhat decayed in its

ornamental

ornamental Parts, but the following Inscription is very fair upon it.

" THE said *Richard* was of the Robes to Kinge
 " *Henry VIII.* and to Kinge *Edward VI.* he deceased
 " the 19th, of May 1552. and is interred in *St. Mar-*
 " *garet's Church* in *Westminster*, he was Sonne to
 " *David Cecill* of *Stamford* Esq; high Sheriff of the
 " County of *Northampton* in the 33 and 34 Years
 " of Kinge *H. VIII.* and is buried in *St. George*
 " his Church in *Stamford*.

" THE said *Jayne* was Daughter and Heyre of
 " *William Heckington* of *Bourne* in the County of
 " *Lincoln* Esq; she lived 87 Years, whereof she con-
 " tinued a Widow 35 Years, she deceased the 10th,
 " of March 1587. She was a very grave religious
 " virtuous and worthy Matron, and delighted ex-
 " ceedingly in Works of Piety and Charity, she
 " was crowned with much Honour and Comfort;
 " & by God his great Blessing she lived to see her
 " Children, and her Children's Children to the fourth
 " and fift Generation & that in a plentiful & honou-
 " rable Succession.

" BEING a happy Mother of that most Honourable
 " Sir *William Cecill* Knight of the noble Order of
 " the Garter, *Ld. Burgley* Lord High Treasurer of
 " *England*, who lyeth here by her.

HERE are three Statues to represent three Daughters
Margaret, Elizabeth and *Ann*.

" MARGARET was first married, to *Roger Carve* of
 " *Stamford* Esq; of whom is descended Ser *Thomas*
 " *Carve*, & after to *Ambrose Smith* of *Bosworth*
 " Esquier.

" ELIZABETH was first married to *Robert Wingsfeild*
 " of *Upton* Esq; of whom is descended Ser *Ro-*
 " *bert Wingsfeild* of *Upton* Knight, and after to *Hugh*
 " *Allington* Esquier.

" ANNE

“ ANNE Married to *Thomas Whyte of Tuxford*
 “ Esq; of whom is descended *John Whyte Esq;*

IN the upper End of the Middle Quire, there stands
 a Mausoleum, erected to the Memory of *William*
Cecil Lord Burghley, and Lord *Treasurer of England*,
 it stands just over the Vault, in which his Body lyes
 interr'd; and has the following Inscription on it.

“ Deo optimo maximo et memoriæ sacrum,
 “ Honoratissim. et longe Clarissim. D. Gulielm. Ce-
 “ cili, Baro de Burghley, summ. Angliæ Thesau-
 “ rari; Curia Pupillor. Præfekt' Georgiani Ordini
 “ Eques Auratus, Serenissimæ Elizabethæ Ang-
 “ gliæ, &c. Reginæ a Sanctioribus Consiliis, et
 “ Academiæ Cantabrigienfis Cancellari sub hoc
 “ Tumulo secundum Christi Adventum manet.

“ Qui ob eximias Animi Dotes Primum, a Se-
 “ cretis fuit Edwardo sexto Angliæ Regi, deinde
 “ Reginæ Elizabethæ, sub qua in maximis et gravissi-
 “ mis hujus Regni Causis spectat', et imprimis
 “ Probat' veram Religionem promovendo Rei-
 “ publicæ salutis, et Dignitati providendo Consilio,
 “ Æquitate Constantia, magnisque, in Rempub.
 “ meritis, Honores consecutus summos cum Na-
 “ turæ et Gloriæ satis Patriæ autem parum vixis-
 “ set,

“ Placide in Christo obdormivit.

“ Uxores habuit duas Mariam Sororem Joannis
 “ Check Equitis Aurati, E qua genuit Filium uni-
 “ cum, Thomam nunc Baronem de Burghley. et
 “ Mildredam Filiam Antonii Cooke Equitis Aura-
 “ ti, quæ illi peperit Robertum Cecilium Equitem
 “ Auratum, Reg. Elizabethæ a Secretis, et Curia
 “ Pupillorum Præfektum, Annam enuptam Edwar-
 “ do Comiti Oxoniæ, et Elizabetham Gulielmō
 “ Wentworth, Filio Primogenito Barones Wente-
 “ worth.

THIS

THIS Noble Earl is call'd by *Cambden*, the *Nestor* of *Britain*; and well did he deserve that Title, as appears from the many extraordinary Favours, the great and discerning Queen *Elizabeth* bestowed upon him: It was in a great Measure thro' him we now enjoy the Blessings of the Reformation. It is not in the Power of Words, to add more to his illustrious Character than what is express'd on his Monument, viz. *He liv'd long enough to Nature, long enough to Glory; but not long enough to his Country.*

AGAINST the North-Wall of the same Isle, is erected a Monument in Memory of *John* Earl of *Exeter*, and *Ann* his Wife: This Lord and Lady, lye upon a Cabinet of fine *Italian* Marble; with the Pressure of his Elbow upon a Cushion; his Lady on the left Side of him with a Book in her Hand: Their two Safe-Guards are *Pallas* and *Minerva*. The Workmanship is curious, and so near resembling those it was design'd for, that it has excell'd all that have ever yet been erected in *England*. The Basis of the Monument, with the Enrichments, which the Figures, and the Pyramid stand on, rise near 30 Foot high, with Eternity fix'd on the Top; this was intended to have been higher, had the Roof of the Isle admitted of it. The Inscription on the Monument is as follows.

H. S. E.

JOHANNES Cecil, *Baro de Burghley*, *Exoniæ Comes*, *magni Burleii Abnepos* haud quaquam degener, *Egregiam enim Indolem optimis Moribus optimis Artibus excoluit. Humanioribus Literis bene instructus peregre plus vice simplici profectus est; et ab excultis Europæ Regionibus multam Antiquitatum Linguarum nec non et Rerum Civilium Scientiam reportavit. Cum Nemo forte melius vel Aulam ornare vel curare Res Publicas*

Publicas posset, maluit tamen Otium et Secessum. Itaque Ruri suo vixit, eleganter, sumptuose, splendide; liberalibus studiis oblectatus; Amicis comis et jucundus; Egenis largus; Legum et Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ fortis semper propugnator, suarum virtutum, et Peregrinationum, imo fere et Scientiarum Sociam habuit Uxorem Annam ex prenobili Domino de Cavendish, Gulielmī Comitīs Devonix Filiam; Corporis Forma, et Animi Ingenio, et omnibus, quæ Feminam dicere possent, Dotibus insignem; E qua quinque Liberos suscepit: Felix Coniuge, felix et Prole, sed inter omnia, vitam quæ faciunt beatiorē, Mortalitatis haud immemor, dum apud Italos præcipue Artis Opera curiosus lustrabat, Hoc Monumentum illic, ubi exquisitissime fieri potuit, sibi et Charissimæ Lecti sui et Itinerum et Curarum omnium Consorti.

Obiit ille

F. F.

Obiit illa

Aug. 29. 1700.

Junii 18. 1703.

Petrus Stephanus Monot Bisuntinus fecit Romæ.

MDCCIV.

THIS being a Character so remarkably fine, and so just a Description of this great Man's Capacities; I thought it Pity it should be lost to those, who have mist the Knowledge of the *Latin* Tongue, so have attempted the Translating of it.

Here lies

" JOHN Cecil Ld. Burghley Earl of Exeter. A worthy great Grand-son of the great Cecil: In him the
 " best Breeding, and most desirable Learning were illustrated by a fine Genius: Being so accomplished
 " in genteel Literature, he went Abroad twice; and
 " in the polite Parts of *Europe* finished himself with
 " the Knowledge of the ancient Languages; and that
 " of the World; when perhaps no Body, was a better Speaker in Publick, or a more able States-Man;
 " yet he chose Retirement: He lived therefore at his

M

own

own Country Seat, *Elegantly*, with *Munificence*, with
Grandeur; taking Pleasure in the Amusements of a
 Gentleman: Easy and Genteel with his Friends,
 Bountiful to the Poor; a *Champion* for the *Laws*
 and *Church*. He married *Anne* Daughter of the
 Earl of *Devonshire*: As Companion in his Travels,
 so, equal in Endowments and Taste; famous for
 her Beauty, and Turn of Mind, and in all those
 Gifts, that can make a Lady appear to Advantage;
 by whom he had five Children. He was happy in
 his Wife, and happy in his Children: But among
 all these Blessings, when in *Italy* (where he was as
 curiously entertained, as Workmanship, and all Art
 could an elegant Taste) remembring he must die,
 he bespoke this Monument (where it could best
 be done) for himself and Lady, Partner of his
 Bed, Companion in his Travels, and the Reliever
 of his Cares.

He died,

She died,

Aug. 29. 1700.

June 18. 1703.

NEAR this Monument against the same Wall is erected one in Memory of Mr. *Edward Dethle*, with the following Inscription upon it:

M. S.

Juxta hoc Monumentum jacet *Edvardus Dethle*.
 Vir in Patriæ Commodum facundus, (Armr.
 Ex una Uxore *Grifilla Steuarda*
 (E nobili *Steuardorum* prosapia oriunda)
 Viginti Liberorum Pater,
 Vir Fide Antiqua, emendatissimis Moribus
 Insigni erga Deum Pietate,
 Et Pacis Artibus conspicuus,
 Eirenarchæ Mumus (in hoc Distriktu) pro Dignitate
 Qui ad Facultates non exiguas natus, (exercens
 His dum licuit Decore usus est,
 Bello civili direptas animose sustinuit;

Duorum

- " Duorum successive Heroum (*Excestriæ Comitum*)
- " Benigno Patrocinio ad extremum sublevatus.
- " Qui Temperantiæ inusitatæ (nec hujus Seculi)
- " Mercedem tulit vegetam diu Senectam,
- " Donec tandem in gravescentibus Annis,
- " Paralyfi diutina, et monitoria confectus,
- " Diem suum obiit supremum :
- " Vto. Nonas, Martii, Anno Ætatis suæ Lxxviii.
- " Æræ Christianæ MDCLXXXVII.
- " Cui (Amicitia memor
- " Quam secum per aliquot Annos sanctissimæ coluit)
- " Sic pie parentavit *Franciscus Hatcher*,
- " Senex ærumnosus, et brevi secuturus.

AGAINST one of the Pillars, on the North Side is fix'd a Monument with the following Inscription on it.

- " QUEM *Batava* Tellus educavit
- " *Gallia* aliquandiu fovit,
- " *Anglia* cumulationibus Beneficiis prosecuta est,
- " Artium (quas varias callebat) justior Æstimatrix,
- " Vir facillimis, et suavissimis Moribus,
- " Inter Florem et Robur Juventæ,
- " Vix 32dum. Vitæ Annum ingressus,
- " Intempestiva Morte preceptus
- " Ws. Wiffingus *Amstelodamensis* H. S. E.;
- " Pictor antiquis par, hodiernis major,
- " *Lelii* celeberrimi non degener Discipulus;
- " Heu Fatum præcociis Ingenii!
- " Quam subito decerpitur Botrus,
- " Qui cæteris festinatius maturefcit.
- " Cujus ad conservandam Memoriam
- " Illustriſſ. *Joannes* Comes *Excestrenſis*
- " (Patronorum optimus) P. M. P. C.
- " Obiit Sept. 10. Annoq; Dom. 1687.

On the South Side of the Communion-Table, lies Mr. *Anthony Palmer*, with the following Inscription on his Grave-Stone.

" Deo optimo Animam nativo Cineri Corpus

" Placidissime reddidit.

" Ab Antiqua et Generosa in Agr. *Northamptonensi*,

" Stirpe oriundus *Anthomius Palmer* Armigr. 21. Die

" Januarii,

Anno { *Ætatis suæ* 71.
Com. *Salutis* 1706.

BOTH in the uppermost Window of the Quire of this Church, as also in many of the Windows, and Stone Work in the Body of the same, stands the Paternal Coat Armour of the Family of the *Trigs*, viz. Azure, 2 Chevrons, Or; between 3 Roses Argent: Whereby we may suppose this Family have been Benefactors to the said Church.

THERE is likewise the Coat Armour of the *Vincent*s, which Family were ancient Lords of *Barnack*: The Arms are Azure, 3 Greyhounds, couped 2 and 1, Or.

ALSO the Arms of *Mathew Parker*, sometime Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the Arms are Vert, three Coneyes Argent, 2 and 1, the same impaled to the Arms of the Arch-Bishoprick.

THERE is in the same Windows, an ancient Coat of Arms, attributed by some Heralds to *Egbert* a Saxon King, the Field is *Jupiter*, a Cross Pattence Sol, which shows the Antiquity of this Church, which is in all Parts a regular and elegant Building; at the West End in the Loft is placed an Organ: The Roof is exceeding neat, and the Pillars are so lofty, and yet so very small, that I question, whether any Church in *England* has ever yet equalled it in this Particular.

CHAP. XI.

An Account of such Monasteries, Nunneries, Schools, and Hospitals, as have been founded in, or near Stamford-Baron.

MONASTERIES were formerly the Schools of Sacred Literature, and other Disciplines, which were useful to the Church; and Bishops, and Pastors were taken from thence. There was formerly in Monasteries, a far different Way of Living, than there now is: They lay on the Ground, Water was their Drink, and Bread their Food, with Herbs and Roots, Oil and Pulse: They forbore all more dainty Diet, and Care of the Body: By such Rudiments they prepared themselves for greater Duties. From hence many great and excellent Men, have been called to the Episcopal Office. This was practised in the Days of *Augustin*, for he speaking to the Monks of the Islands of *Capraia*. Epist. 28. says, *We exhort you Brethren in the Lord, that you hold your Purpose, and persevere to the End; and if at any Time, our Mother the Church shall require your helping Hand, that you neither embrace it with a greedy Haughtiness, nor refuse it with a selfish Slothfulness; but that you may obey God with a meek Heart.*

THE first Monks we read of, were in the middle of the third Century; Men whom the Persecution of the Heathen Emperors compelled to live in Desarts, and who being, by a long Course of Solitude, render'd not so agreeable to Society, chose therefore to continue in their Monastick Way, even after the true Cause of it ceased. After this small Prefatory Discourse

course of a Monastick-Life, I shall proceed to give an Account of such as have been erected here.

St. Leonard's *Monastery* of Benedictines.

THE first of the religious Orders that settled here were the *Benedictines*, whose Rule was introduced into this Nation by *Augustin* the Monk, in the Year of our Lord 596. The Founder of this Order was St. *Bennet*, who in his own Life-time erected 12 Monasteries. The Monasticon does not mention this House, nor is it in Mr. *Willis's* History of Abbies, so that it seems to have been obscure, or at least unfortunate in having all Memorials of it lost, since such diligent Searchers in Antiquities have found nothing of it. The little that we have concerning it is as follows. At the East End and near to *Stamford*, was an House of *Benedictin* Monks, founded and endowed by *Nicholas de Farnham* Bishop of *Durham*, in the Year 1247, it had the Manner of *Cutbert's-Fee*, as Part of its Possessions: It had also the Advowson of St. *Mary's* Rectory near the Bridge; which I suppose had then some Revenue belonging to it, tho' now it has little left, but a small House; this was dedicated to St. *Leonard*, and belong'd to the Church of *Durham*, Part of the Chappel of this Religious House is still standing, the Front appears now exceeding fine and curious. *Reynerus* sets the Value at the Dissolution at 36 l. and *Speed* at 36 l. 17 s.

The *Monastery* of Franciscans, or Friers-Minors, or Grey-Friers.

THE *Franciscans*, were instituted, in the Year 1206. by St. *Francis*, who in his Life-time saw Two Thousand five Hundred Convents of his own Monks. This Monastery

Monastery was seated a little Way out of *Stamford*, on the East Side of it, and North of *St. Leonard's* Monastery; but when, or by whom founded, I have not been able to find, nor any other Particulars concerning the same, beside what follows. In the Town Coffer of *Stamford* is preserved this Memorial; that in the 48 Year of King *Edward III.* *William de Stone*, Guardian of the *Friers-Minors*, and the Convent of the same in *Stamford*; did make an Exchange of a Fountain at *Stacyes-Milne*, called *Estwellsherved*, with the Town of *Stamford*; *John Browne* being then *Alderman*, for another Fountain lying in *Emblin's-Close*, just opposite to them, whereby the Water was conveyed to them by leaden Pipes, at an easy Charge. Not many Years since this was a neat Spring, but for Want of a little Care it is now destroyed.

To this may be added the Surrender of this Monastery, by the Guardian and Friers of the same, taken from *Fuller's* History of Abbies, P. 319, who quotes for it the Records of the Court of Augmentation.

The Surrender of the Warden and Friers of St. Francis in Stamford.

FOR as much as the Warden and Freers of the House of *St. Frances*, in *Stamforde*, comenly callyd the *Gray-Freers*, in *Stamforde*, in the County of *Lincolne*, doo profoundly consider, that the Perfection of Christian Lyving do the not consiste in the doine Ceremonies, werying of the gray Coote, disgeasing our selfe after strange Fashions, doking and bekyng, in gurdyng our selfes with a Gardle full Knotts, and other like Papiistical Ceremonies

remories, wherein we have been moost principally practycd and misseled in Times past; but the very tru Waye to please God, and to live a tru Christian Man, wythe owte all Ypocrasie, and fayned Dissimulation, is sincerely declayryd unto us by our Master *Christe*, his Evangelists and Apostles. Being myndyd hereafter to followe the same; conformyng our selfe unto the Will and Pleasure of our Supreme Hedde under God in Erthe, the King's Majestye; and not to follow henceforth the superstitious Traditions of any Forincynal Potentate, or Poore, wythe mutual Assent and Consent; doo submytt ovr selfes unto the Mercy of ovr said Soveraygne Lorde. And with mutual Assent and Consent; do surrender, and yelde up unto the Hand of the same, all ovr said House of *Saint Frances in Stamforde*, comenly cally'd the Grey-Freers in *Stamforde*, with all Lands, Tenements, Gardens, Meadows, Waters, Pondyards, Feedings, Pastures, Comens, Rentes, Reversions, and all other ovr Interest Ryghtes, and Tythes, aperteygning unto the same; mooste humbly besechyng his mooste Noble Grace, to dispose of us and of the same, as best schall stonde wythe his most graciously Pleasure. And farther, freely to graunt unto every one of us his Licence undre Wretyng and Seal, to change ovr Habites into secular Fashion, and to receive such Manner of Livyngs as other secular Priestres comenly be preferry'd unto. And we all saythfully schall pray unto Almighty God long to preserve his mooste noble Grace, wythe Encrease of moche Felicitie and Honor.

AND in Witnes of all and singuler the Premises, we the saide Warden, and Covent of the Grey-Freers in *Stamforde*, to these Presents have put our Covent Seal, the yeght Day of *Octobre*, in the

thirtythe Yere of the Raigne of owre mooste Sovereayne King Henry the yeight.

Factum Johannes Schemy, Gardian.

Per me Fratrem Johannem Robards.

Per me Johannem Chadworth.

Per me Richardum Pye.

Per me Johannem Clarcke.

Per me Johannem Quoyte.

Per me Johannem Farman.

Per me Johannem Yong.

Per me Johannem Lovel.

Per me Willielmum Tompson.

THIS is the Form of Resignation, as above quoted, wherein three Things occur worthy to be considered. *First*, Whether this, and severall other such like Resignations, were not entirely forged, without the Knowledge or Consent of any of the Parties therein named. *Secondly*, That if such Persons did so far comply, as to subscribe such Resignations, it is almost out of Dispute, that they were compelled to it thro' Fear and Dread, as well for their Reputation as Life, well knowing that no Methods, tho' ever so infamous, were spared to defame them; and that the King, who never spar'd Man in his Wrath, or Woman in his Lust, would use no Moderation towards them, if they opposed him. *Thirdly*, That it is certain there were very few; Monasteries of *Franciscans*, and particularly that of *Stamford*, (which is known to have been very large) that contained so few as ten Friers, the Number as above; so that it will appear, that if ever such Instruments were subscribed at all, the same was not done by one fourth Part of the Proprietors. These Particulars are the more probable in the *Franciscans*, because all our Historians

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agree,

agree, that they were the boldest in opposing King Henry VIII. wherein they out did all the Religious Orders, for which they were suppressed; and even before their total Suppression, near two Hundred of them were imprisoned in divers Parts of England.

Monastery of Carmelites, or *White-Friers*.

THE Carmelites were founded in the Year 1122 by *Albert* Patriarch of *Jerusalem*, who gathered together some *Hermites* that lived on Mount *Carmel*. When *Palestine* was taken by the *Saracens*, they flocked into *Europe*, and came into *England* about the Year 1265, and had for their General St. *Symon Stock*, so called from his living in a hollow Tree.

ON the *East*, without *Stamford*, and just at the *East End* of the Convent of the *Franciscans*, was situated a large House of Carmelites, or *White-Friers*, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin *Mary*. It was founded by the *Black Prince's* Consort, who was also interred here. It seems to have been a large and noble Structure: The Gate of the outward Wall leading to it, is now standing, having 3 Niches, where 3 Statues seem to have stood, and over them 3 Coats of Arms, that in the Middle was the Arms of *England* and *France* quarter'd; but the two others on the Sides of it, are so defaced, that we cannot guess what they were. This Convent was confirmed by King *Edward III.* who lodged in it, and, in all Probability, held a great Council (as *Brady* observes in his History Vol. 2. P. 216) in this Place, when he was at *Stamford*; and here gave Confirmation to the Priory of *Newsted*, on the 25. of *June*.

Mr.

MR. *Willis* says no more of it, than that this Convent was surrendered by the Prior the 8th of October 30. Hen. VIII.

Monastery of Dominicans, or Friers Preachers, or Black-Friers.

THE *Dominicans* took their Rise in the Year 1216, from St *Dominick*, and multiplied so fast, that in the Space of 270 Years, they had 1143 Convents.

ON the East Side of *Stamford*, a little to the South West of the *Franciscans*, the *Dominicans*, otherwise called *Black* or *Preaching Friers*, had seated themselves. Their Convent took up a large Parcel of Ground, and seems to have been a considerable Structure, but when, or by whom founded is uncertain: Tho' by *Henry VIII.* it was granted to *Robert Butcher* Gentleman, and *David Vincent*, unus *Pagettorum Garderobe*; which Grant is now in the Possession of *Savil Cust* Esq; *Samuel Cust* Esq; of *Pinchbeck* in the County of *Lincoln*, bought this Place of the Heirs of *Robert Butcher*, and *David Vincent*, in the Reign of K. *James I.* Upon his Decease it came to *Richard* his eldest Son, who was Member of Parliament for this Corporation, and created a Baronet by K. *Charles II.* From him it devolved to his Son *Pury*, who was Knighted, in the Life-time of his Father, by King *William III.* for his good Services in *England* and *Ireland*. It is now turned into an House, and is in the Possession of *Savil Cust*, second Son to the aforesaid Sir *Pury*.

SPEED mentions two Houses of *Dominicans* at *Stamford*; the one he calls the Monastery of St. *Michael*, without any Mention of the Founder: And

gives the Valuation of it, Seventy two Pounds eighteen Shillings ten Pence Half-penny.

THE other he names St. Mary and St. Nicbolas, and makestwo; viz. Talbois Earl of Anjou, and William de Romara the Founders. The Valuation, Sixty five Pounds, nineteen Shillings, and nine Pence.

Monastery of Friers Eremites of St. Augustin.

THE *Augustin* Friers derive their Original from the same Person with the *Regular Canons* of that Name, they passed from *Italy* into *England*, in the Year 1252.

AT the *West End* of *Stamford*, just without St. Peter's Gate, on the left Hand, stood the Monastery of *Augustin Friers* founded by one *Flemming*, a very rich Man in *Stamford*: The Care of Finishing it was committed to the Archdeacon of *Richmond*, but there is no mention of any Date or other Particulars. If answerable to the Circumference of one inclosed Ground, it was very large, being near a Quarter of a Mile in Length. The Ruins of it now standing are venerable, and give a good Idea of its former Grandeur, of which the following is the best Account I have yet seen, or have been able to procure.

THIS Friery has doubtless been a most noble Fabric, as appears by the remaining Ruins, which have been carefully inspected: The *West Front* appears to have been 80 Yards long; the *South Front* 80 Yards long; the Chappel standing on the *North Side*, may easily be discerned to have been 40 Yards long, and 20 Yards wide; and the End of the Chappel *westward*, seems to have ranged along the Cloysters; which are of the same Length and Breadth with the Chappel.

Chappel. In which Place lately digging to make a Saw-pit, were found the Sculls and Bones of Men. The Chappel seems to range even with, and joyn to the *East* Front, as the Cloysters do to the *West*. The *East* Front is also 80 Yards, ; so that the whole is an entire Square, and in the Middle thereof very plainly appears a curious and compleat Court, being exactly 30 Yards every Way, the Stone Pillars and Window (which the Reverend Mr. *William Foster* says he has seen dug up in the Ruins) render the Structure very magnificent ; and some of the Rooms, whether for Conveniency or Curiosity, have been paved with a fine Sort of glazed Tiles of different Colours ; 2 Inches thick, and 9 Inches Square, and from Corner to Corner 12 Inches ; a whole Load of them was found, as they lay on a paved Floor ; and more might have been taken up, but that they were spoiled, and so not thought worth while. On the *West* Front, at a small Distance, there yet appears to have been a very curious Garden, as seems by the Degrees, which both in Length, Breadth, and Ascent, were very carefully, exactly, and proportionably made ; and the *South* Front, by the rising of the Ground, assures us it was approached to by a noble and gradual Ascent ; the whole being environ'd with a Stone Wall, near Half a Mile about. The Situation as sweet, pleasant, and delightful, as if Nature here wanted no Assistance from Art : Which made one observe on these Monks,

*They plant themselves in fairest Plots,
For Pasture, Wood, and Spring ;
No Grief or Care comes to their Lots,
When others sigh, they sing.*

THE *South* and *West* Prospects are made agreeable by the Streams of the River *Weland*, and its most rich and

and fragrant Meadows. A little beyond the *North West* End of this Friery, is a long Hedge, commonly called *Pewterer's-Hedge*, where, according to Tradition, was formerly a Street inhabited by *Pewterers*: But we have no other Authority for it, and at the *West* End of this very fairly appears the *Roman High Way*. About a Quarter of a Mile *West* of this Friery, stood a small Village called *Breadcroft*; which some are of Opinion, received its Name from the several Bakers inhabiting the same; as appeared by some old Writings in the Evidence Room of Mr. *William Brown's* Hospital in *Stamford*: And nigh *Breadcroft* was lately found a large Stone Coffin, which may be still seen in a Close called *Rock-Close*, without *St. Clement's Gate*, and is used as a Trough to water Horses. This Account is from the Manuscript above quoted, and they might be standing when the same was written: But at this Time there is no such Remains.

I Find no Priors of this Monastery, but only the last of them, which was *Richard Warner*; who with five of his Brethren surrender'd this Convent *October 6th, 30. Henry VIII.* This seems to have been a considerable Monastery, and consequently must have had at that Time many more than six Friars, and therefore it is probable, that all the rest refusing to submit to the Surrender, were turn'd out, and no Mention made of them, to the End that it might look as if the Convent had consented, which it is well known was questioned in most other Monasteries.

Dr. Stukeley in his *Itinerarium Curiosum* P. 33. says, that about 1708 a Brass Seal was dug up in the Castle at *Stamford* of *Thomas Bishop of Elphin*; in Possession of *Ralph Madison Esq.* This Seal was dug up in the aforementioned Monastery, and is now in the Possession of *John (not Ralph) Madison Esq.* of *Kenton*, in the County of *Rutland*. It is very finely engraved,

ved, and has the following Inscription round it: *Sigillum Domini Thome Dei Gratia Elphinensis Episcopi.*

Priory of St. Michael.

IN the Reign of King Henry II. William Bishop of Peterborough, built a Monastery of Nuns, in Honour of God and St. Michael; and brought into it 40 Nuns living religiously and regularly at Stamford: And by his Grant gave them for ever the Church of St. Michael, with all its Possessions.

KING John confirm'd this Grant. Lucy, the Wife of William Humet, bestow'd on it half a Mark of Silver yearly, charg'd upon her Lands at Breadcroft.

THE Priorefs and Nuns of this Monastery, by their Act and Deed, acknowledge their Subjection to the Abbot of St. Peter at Peterborough; that their Prior, who had Charge of their Affairs, was to be plac'd and displac'd by the said Abbot, no Priorefs to be chosen without his Leave, and he to dispose of their Revenues during any Vacancy, and the Monastery to be entirely at his Disposal, and to pay him a Mark yearly as an Acknowledgment.

The Names of the Colleges that were at Stamford.

FIRST, *Sempringham-Hall* in St. Peter's Parish. This was founded by Robert Luterel, Rector of *Irnham*, who gave Lands and Tenements, in the Towns of *Ketton*, *Cotismore*, and *Casterton* in the County of *Rutland*, and a large House, and Lands in *Stamford*; to maintain three Chaplains to say Mass for his Soul,
one

one in the Parish Church of St. *Andrew* at *Irtham*; one in the Chappel of St. *Mary Benewerk*, and one in the Conventual Church of *Sempringham*. All the rest he gave for the Support of a School at *Stamford*, wherein Youth were taught Divinity, and Philosophy for the Increase of the Number of the Convent at *Sempringham*. *John Daldredy*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, confirm'd to the Monastery of *Sempringham*, the Donation of the aforefaid *Robert Luterel*; and in the Year 1303 allow'd them the Use of St. *Mary's* Church, for Divine Service. The Front of the House is now standing, and carries with it the Appearance of an old Collegiate Building. *Sempringham* was famous for the Holy Order of the *Gilbertines*, instituted by one *Gilbert* Lord of the Place, by the Authority of *Eugenius* the third, Pope of *Rome* in the Year 1148 (altho' contrary to the Constitution of *Justinian*, who forbade all double Monasteries, that is, of Men and Women promiscuously) introduced an Order of Men and Women which encreased to that Degree, that he founded 13 Convents out of it, and lived to see 700 *Gilbertine* Friars, and 1100 Sisters.

SECONDLY, Over against *All-Saints* Church, on the South Side stands an ancient Building call'd formerly † *Black-Hall*. Mr. *Wood* says, there was a Kitchen, that gave evident Marks of Antiquity. The Shape of the Windows, and Parlour show it not to be of common Use.

* *Brazen-Nose*. THIRDLY, * *Brazen-Nose*, which is still remaining near *Paul's-Gate*. That there was a Refectory, or Hall here in Mr. *Wood's* Time, is plain; but it is now pull'd down and turn'd into a Charity School: Nothing of Antiquities remaining, but the *Brazen-Nose* on the Door. Yet by whom it was built, or to what Convent it belong'd, we have no Records left to show. It was here in *Edward* the third's Time: For one of those that were return'd

return'd by the Jury, for keeping up University Exercises, after they had been enjoyn'd the contrary by the King, was *Philip* the Observator, or Munciple of *Brazen-Nose*.

FOURTHLY, In *St. Mary's Stamford*, there is an Inn call'd the † *Old-Swan*, which common Fame as † *Old-Swan*; firms to have been a College.

FIFTHLY, An House standing full East of the Parsonage House of *St. George's*, where was a School of *Carmelites*, or *White Friars*; Tho' Mr. *Wood* could not tell any more of it, than that it was a College, for Want of Records.

SIXTHLY, There did lately run along the South Side of *St. George's Church*, the Length of the Street, a Building very like the old Halls in *Oxford*; and while it stood entire, the arch'd Doors and Windows after the ancient Form, plainly shew'd it an House of Learning.

Stamford Nunnery.

WILLIAM Langvale gave to the Nuns of the Invocation of *St. Michael* the Archangel, the Church of *St. Clement* of *Stamford*; *Achard Stamford* that of *All-Saints* in the same Place; *Richard Humet* that of *St. Andrew*, still in the same Place.

WILLIAM Abbot of *Peterburgh* that of *St. Martin* in the same Place, confirm'd by *Oliver* Bishop of *Lincoln*; *Roger Torpel* one third of the Church of *St. John Evangelist* at *Corby*; *Maud Diva* another third Part of the said Church, both confirmed by *Hugh* Bishop of *Lincoln*, and the latter by *Maud's* Son *Ralph*, *William* Abbot of *Peterburgh* the Church of *Thusleby*; *Ascelina Waterville* Half the Chappel of *Upton*, and *William* Earl *Warren* 40 s. yearly of the Mill of *Wakefeld*.

St. John Baptist's Hospital,

THE Charter of the 33d, of King Henry III. recites that of King Richard I. of the first Year of his Reign, confirming to this Hospital of St. John Baptist, and St. Thomas the Martyr, all the Lands &c. given them by one Seyward the Founder, or any other. The same is again confirmed by the Bull of Pope Alexander, which observes that the Hospital stood at the South End of Stamford Bridge.

Newstede Hospital, near Stamford.

WILLIAM D' Aubigny the third, gave to this Hospital of the Invocation of the Blessed Virgin of his own Foundation, (and seated at the Bridge of *Wass* between *Stamford* and *Offington*, the Place where the Chappel of the Blessed Virgin Mary stood, with the Court adjoyning) the Mill at *Offington*, with other Lands particularly described in his Deed; as also the Tithe of all the Bread of his House. He likewise ordain'd that the Master of the Hospital should be a Priest and Canon-Regular, and to have another Canon with him to say Mass for the Living and the Dead, with proper Ministers to assist them; that 7 infirm Poor Persons should be maintained out of the Revenues of the Hospital, allowing them necessary Food and Cloathing, with 7 Beds for them to lie in, and all Things thereunto belonging; and in case the Revenues should increase, the Number of Poor also to be augmented. By another Deed the said Founder confirm'd his former, and added other Donations, ordaining, that there should be 2 Priests, one of them to say Mass every Day for the Dead, and the other according to the Time; as also one Deacon, and one Clerk to serve the said Priests, and 13 Beds for the Poor.

WILLIAM:

WILLIAM D' Aubigny the fourth, confirm'd all his Father's Grants by particular Deed; as did King Edward III. in the eleventh Year of his Reign, reciting in his Charter all the particular Donations: The Value of it at its Dissolution was 42 l. 1 s. 3 d.

THO' it may now seem but a small Sum to maintain such a great Number of Persons, as were usually in these Monasteries and Schools; yet if we consider, the Value of Money in those Days, our Wonder will soon cease. In the Reign of † Henry VII. the Wages of a Hay-Maker was settled at one Penny the Day, and in the Reign of * Henry VIII. it never exceeded 3 Half Pence, whereas now it is 12 Pence.

* Vid. Stat.
11. Hen VII.

† Vid. 6. Hen.
VIII. concern-
ing Artificers.

CHAP. XII.

An Account of William Brown's, Lord Burghley's, and Thomas Truesdale's Hospitals; to which is subjoined, an Account of the Spinning-School, erected by the Corporation.

THIS Hospital hath a noble Foundation, and greatly excells all those which are now settled at Stamford; but it hath shared in the Misfortunes of the other religious Houses of this Place: The Knavery of some of the Wardens, to advance their own Interest, hath robb'd the Poor of their Pay, destroyed the Records, and stript the House of its Ornaments and Jewels: But it must be mentioned, for the Honour, and Credit of the present Gentleman concern'd, it is now, once more brought into a flourishing State; the Statutes are regularly observed, and the Pay to each of the Poor is 2 s. 6 d. weekly; which is 2 d.

Brown's Hospital.

more than it was sometime since. The *Warden* has a neat convenient House for his own Use ; the *Confrater* has an Appartment to himself ; the 12 Poor have each a distinct Room, and a large Kitchen in common : At the End of the Poor's Rooms is a neat Chappel, where Prayers are read twice a Day ; except those Days, when they are at the Church of *All-Saints* : Over the Poor's Rooms is a large Audit Room. The Paintings in Glasse are here, as well as in the Chappel, very fine and curious. The *Warden* hath a Salary of 24 l. yearly and the *Confrater* 20 l.

THE Fabrick of this House, with the Chappel annexed, were built by *William Browne* Citizen of *Stamford*, and Merchant of the *Staple* of *Calis*, in the Beginning of the Reign of *Richard* the third ; from whom he procured Letters Patents for himself, or his Executors, to found this House : And to that End settled Lands in Trust, before his Decease, for the Maintenance of two secular Priests ; the one to be called the *Warden*, the other the *Confrater* of the said Hospital ; to celebrate divine Service in the Chappel aforesaid, daily for ever : And ten poor Men, and two poor Women unmarried, to cohabit in the said House, under the Government of the said *Warden*. But *William Browne* dying before it was finished, left it to his Executor Mr. *Thomas Stoke* Canon of *York*, Chaplain to the *Ld. High Chancellor of England*, and Brother to *Margaret Browne* Relict of the said *William Browne*, to finish it ; who performed his Trust with great Fidelity : For he procured at his own Cost new Letters Patents, from *Henry VII.* to incorporate this House, and settle the Lands left by *William Browne*, to be called the Hospital of *William Browne*, for the Uses aforesaid : He also made many wholesome Constitutions, called the Statutes, for the better Government of the Hospital. The aforesaid *William Browne* left Lands in the County of *Lincoln*, viz. the Mannor of *Swafield*, the Mannor of *North-*

Witham; with 65 Acres of Wood-Land for the Use of the House : Several Lands in *South-Witham*, *Tewford*, *Woolsthorpe*, *Wiltsthorpe*, *Barholm*, *Coltersworth*, *Castle-bitham*, *Cowmthorpe*, *Cariby*, and *Stamford* : In the County of *Northampton*, several Farms, and Tenements; in *Easton*, *Barnack*, *Wilcott*, *Pilsgate*, *St. Martins*, *Wothorpe*, and *Warmington* : In the County of *Rutland*, *North-Luffenham*, *Sculthorpe*, *Stretton*, *Stretton-Stokin*, *Thistleton*, *Esfindine* : In the County of *Leicester*, *Steynby*.

ON the 22d, Day of *December* 1494, the Chappel was consecrated to Divine Service, by *John Bishop* of *Lincoln*; and dedicated to the most glorious *Virgin*, and *All-Saints*.

IN the Reign of King *James I.* certain covetous minded Persons, finding some Flaws, and Imperfections in the Foundation of the House, endeavoured to convert the Lands to their own private Use; but that charitable Prince, was so far from complying with their greedy Desires, that out of his gracious Disposition, he new founded the said Hospital; and by his Royal Charter, bearing Date the 4th, of *May*, in the eighth Year of his Reign; settled all the Lands given by the most bountiful Founder; granted and enlarged all the Privileges, and Immunities, which were granted, by his most noble Progenitor *Henry VII.* only, that the House should be called the Hospital of *William Browne*, of the Foundation of King *James*. He also appointed that this Corporation should consist of two Chaplains to celebrate Divine Service; one to be called *Custos Domus*, the other *Confrater*: And 12 Poor to live under the Government of the said *Warden*: At the same Time he presented the Hospital with his Picture, which is now fix'd at the East End of the Audit Room: By Virtue of this Charter, they are incorporated as a Body; and have a Power to sue, and be sued, and have a common Seal, which they

they may break at Pleasure : The Seal, which is now used by the House, has the following Inscription on it: *Sigillum Domus Eleemosynarie Willielmi Broxne de Stamford*. Part of the Chappel stands in the Parish of St. Michael, and the Governors have covenanted with the Vicar of the same to pay him 6 s. 8 d. a Year to quit them of all Parochial Demands.

In the Cloisters against the Wall (as we go up the Stairs to the Audit-Room) is fix'd engraved on a Brass-Plate the following Verses.

*Hæc nova Structura retinens Habitatula plura,
Sit permansura per Tempora longa futura.
Debilibus sic et Senibus fuit edificata ;
Pauperibus non Divitibus Domus ista beata.
Hanc qui fundavit, dotavit, perpetuavit,
Crimina cum davit sua credimas omnia lavit.
Construëtor hujus, Patriæ Decus Urbis et hujus,
Willielmus dictus tunc Broxne heu ! jam nece victus.
Sit Domus ista Precum, aut hæc mea non reputetur,
Sic baptizetur sit Domus ista Precum.*

WILLIAM Lord Burghley Lord High Treasurer of England, after he had finished his stately House of Burghley, erected an * Hospital in St. Martins Stamford-Baron, in the Year 1597, and endowed it with 100 l. yearly, issuing out of the Lands of Cliff-Park, in the County of Northampton : This is to be employed in the Maintenance of a Warden, and 12 poor Men. The Warden is to be allowed 3 Shillings a Week, and the 12 poor Men, each of them 2 s. 4 d. The House is to be repaired out of the said 100 l. a Year ; and the Warden, and twelve Poor are to have every Year a new Gown, and each of them a Load of Wood ; and if, after this Provision is made, any Overplus remains, it is to go towards the Maintenance of such poor Prisoners, as shall be in the Gail of Stamford

* Ld. Burghley's Hospital.

THOMAS *Billet* Steward to the said Lord *Burghley*, gave a Rent Charge of 16 l. for ever issuing out of his Lands, and Tenements in *Grantham* &c. for the Maintenance of two poor Women, to be Nurses to the poor Men in the aforesaid Hospital; the Women to have 3 s. a Piece weekly, and the Remainder to be equally divided, amongst the *Warden*, and the other 12 poor Men, for their better Maintenance. Upon the Death of any the said Poor, The aforesaid *William* Lord *Burghley* made Ordinances, That upon the Death, &c. the first five of the thirteen Poor, shall be named, chosen, and admitted always by the said Lord *Burghley*, during his Life; and afterwards by his Heir-Male, that shall be Owner of his House, and Lord of *Burghley*; the Foremost of the said five shall be called the *Warden* of the Alms-House of the Lord *Burghley*.

THE next four, which are the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth, shall be named and admitted by the Vicar of *St. Martins*, for the Time being; and the *Bayliff* of the Mannor of *Stamford-Baron* in the County of *Northampton*; and the eldest *Church-Warden* of *St. Martins*, and by them that shall be Dwellers in the *Nunnery* (otherwise called *St. Michael's*) and in the Inn called the *George* of *Stamford-Baron*, or by the greater Number of them.

THE last four, viz. The tenth, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth, shall be named, and admitted, by him that shall for the Time being, be *Alderman* for the Borough of *Stamford* in the County of *Lincoln*, and by the Recorder in that Town; the *Steward* and *Bayliff* of the said Mannor of *Stamford*, or the major Part of them, whereof the *Alderman* to be one.

IN the Year of our Lord 1700, *Thomas Truesdale* Gentleman, did by his last Will give a * Messuage in * *Truesdale's Hospital* *Scotgate* in *Stamford*, to be made into convenient little Rooms for Habitations for six ancient poor Men,

as

as shall be Inhabitants of the Parishes of *All-Saints*, and *St. John's* in *Stamford*; each of which Persons to receive weekly 2 s. 6 d. and a Cloth Gown, or Suit of Cloth yearly: And for the due Payment of this, he gave to *Mr. William Barker*, *Charles Titley*, *John Evans*, and *John Palmer*, and to their Heirs and Assigns; all that, his Mannor or Farm with the Appurtenances, situate in *Morton*, in the County of *Lincoln*, and all Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments thereunto belonging; and also, all that his Rectory or Parsonage of *Basson*, in the County of *Lincoln*, with all Tithes, and other Profits to the same belonging; and also all that his Messuage, Malting-Office, Edifices and Buildings, with 6 Acres of Land thereunto belonging in *Scot-gate* in *Stamford* for ever; nevertheless, upon the Trusts specified. Upon the Death of any of these poor Men, or a Vacancy from Misdemeanors, the aforesaid Trustees have Power to nominate other like poor Men Inhabitants of the aforesaid Parishes: The Residue and Overplus of the Rents and Profits of the aforesaid Lands and Tenements, is to be laid out in keeping the Premises in sufficient Repair, and to buy Fuel yearly, for the aforesaid six poor Men: These Trustees, are obliged by the said Will, to give a just Account on every Easter-Monday, unto the Mayor of *Stamford*, the Rectors of *All-Saints*, and *St. John's*, and the Warden of *Mr. Brown's* Hospital, and their Successors for the Time being; and upon their Refusal, or Neglect to give such Account as aforesaid, or Failure in the due Performance of the Trust reposed in them in this Behalf, in the Judgment of the 12 Aldermen of the Town of *Stamford*, or the greater Number of them, certified under their Hands and Seals; then in such Case, his Gift to *Mr. William Barker*, &c. shall be from thence forth void; and placed in the Hands of the Mayor Rectors of *All-Saints*, and *St. John's*, and Warden of

Mr.

Mr. Brown's Hospital, for the Time being, and their Successors upon the Trusts aforesaid.

An Account of the Charity School.

THE Magistrates of this Corporation being sensible, that the great Dissoluteness of Manners, which so visibly abounds among the poorer Sort of People ; is chiefly owing either to the Neglect, or Inability of Parents, to educate and instruct them in the Knowledge of our holy Religion ; did therefore think themselves in Duty bound to prevent, and remedy for the Future, as much as in them lay, those great Inconveniences, which must necessarily attend Profaneness and Immorality : In Order thereto, they did in the Year 1704, set up a *Charity School*: Assigning for that Purpose, a large House belonging to the Corporation, call'd the *Brazen-Nose College*, having been then but lately rebuilt ; in which a great many poor Children have been since constantly employ'd in Spinning, and withal taught to *Read*, and instructed in *Religion*, *Psalmody*, *Writing*, &c. as far as the Circumstances of the *Children* and *School* will admit.

THIS Undertaking, however decried by some, hath, by God's Blessings, hitherto proved succesful ; and met with suitable Encouragement from many honourable and worthy Persons. And we must still hope, tho' its Enemies are many ; that a Design so piously begun, and so highly beneficial to the Publick, as well as the Poor themselves, will always recommend it self to the serious Regard, of charitable, and well disposed Persons, and that all such will chearfully contribute towards the Continuance and Enlargement thereof.

THE Corporation, besides the Assignment of the aforesaid House, and keeping it in Repair, gave 20 l. a Year out of the Town Stock, for three Years ; The

Right Hon. the Earl of Exeter gave	16 l.	02 s.	06 d.
The R. Hon. the E. of Nottingham	10	00	00
The Honourable William Cecil	10	00	00
Charles Bertie Esq;	10	00	00
Sir Edmund Turner	10	00	00
Dr. John Sharp, late A. Bishop of York	16	02	06
The late Earl of Gainsborow	10	15	00
John Browne of Tolthorpe Esq;	100	00	00
Dr. Frederick Slare, out of the Estate of Joseph Neal Esq; de- vised for charitable Uses	200	00	00
Richard Brocklesby, Clerk	100	00	00
Sir Thomas Trollope of Castwick	47	00	00
Mr Edward Greaves	10	00	00
In the Year 1725 Mrs. Mary Walburgh gave	50	00	00
And Mrs. Wills of Exton	100	00	00

SOME of which Persons, besides the Benefactions abovementioned, subscribed yearly, as follows,

The Honourable William Cecil	03	00	00
Charles Bertie Esq;	03	00	00
Sir Edmund Turner	04	00	00
Sir Thomas Trollop	04	00	00

SEVERAL other neighbouring Gentlemen and Clergy-Men, as well as Inhabitants of the Town, have from Time to Time, contributed very freely, and generously towards the Support of the said School.

THIS Foundation is for 24 Children, who are wholly maintained and lodged in the School; besides others that come daily to learn to spin and read there; which Advantage lies open to all the Poor in the Town and Neighbourhood, and is denied to none that will make Use of it; there is a Mistress, and a Servant resident to teach them, what is proper to make

the Girls good Servants; as Spinning, Knitting, Sewing, &c. And a Master attends daily to improve the Boys in Writing, Singing of Psalms, and Accounts; who likewise takes an Account of the Children's Work and Behaviour; reads Prayers, and Catechizes them. There are 3 Stewards appointed at their Annual Meeting to superintend the whole, who have a great Power lodg'd in them: And two Auditors to inspect their Accounts, which are to be laid before them, four Days or more before the Annual Meeting: And an Apothecary is desired constantly to attend when any are sick, and provide such Medicines, as shall be judged suitable to their present Exigencies: The Stewards are chosen by the Trustees; and any one subscribing 20 s. a Year, is always qualified to act as a Trustee.

THESE Charitable Contributions, one would think, should at least silence the Clamours of covetous and ill disposed Persons, if they cannot provoke them to good Deeds: For this must be owned to be one of the greatest Charities in Life, as it so early tinctures the Mind with Religion, and lays a Foundation for future Happiness: The Hungred do here find Meat, the Thirsty have here to Drink, the Naked are clothed, the Stranger is taken in, and the Sick visited: But such has been the Assurance of some Persons, that they have represented this useful, this advantageous Charity, as upon the Brink, and Precipice of Destruction. If this was the Case, as God be thanked it is not; it would be highly becoming those great Reformers, to offer their Assistance to stop that Inundation of Corruption, they think is so likely to destroy it: Let but those Persons qualifie themselves for Trustees, and they will be heard with the greatest Regard and Thankfulness; and I will venture to say (for I now speak from Knowledge) no one Institution can be managed with greater Impartiality and Justice,

stice: And I hope it plainly appears to all unprejudiced Persons, that the Management of this School, is put into the easiest and best Method. And since those Gentlemen, who have so largely, and still constantly contribute, are fully satisfied, that every Thing is done with the greatest Decency, and Convenience; Those who take Matters up only from Hearsay, since they will not commend, I think, at least, ought not to condemn. But it is very possible, such Persons Discourses, can be for no other Design, than to lessen the pious Intentions of those Gentlemen, who have been so kind, as to take the Management of this important Affair upon them. But if we consider that it is the Cause of God, and the Welfare of their Fellow Creatures, they are promoting, they ought in the greatest Degree to have our Thanks for their Care and Diligence, in carrying on so laudable a Design, and not be condemned for their publick Spirit: But these Reformers are very far from being the Persons they would appear to be, hardly any one of them, having ever yet contributed in the least to this pious Institution, either by their Purse or Advice.

F I N I S

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